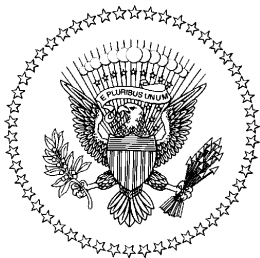


Weekly Compilation of  
**Presidential  
Documents**



Monday, February 14, 1994  
Volume 30—Number 6  
Pages 217–282

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## WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

## PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is published pursuant to the authority contained in the Federal Register Act (49 Stat. 500, as amended; 44 U.S.C. Ch. 15), under

regulations prescribed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, approved by the President (37 FR 23607; 1 CFR Part 10).

Distribution is made only by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* will be furnished by mail to domestic subscribers for \$80.00 per year (\$137.00 for mailing first class) and to foreign subscribers for \$93.75 per year, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. The charge for a single copy is \$3.00 (\$3.75 for foreign mailing).

There are no restrictions on the republication of material appearing in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*.

Week Ending Friday, February 11, 1994

**Statement on the Observance of  
National African-American History  
Month**

*February 4, 1994*

I want to extend my greetings to all of you who are celebrating African-American History Month during this important time of renewal and reflection for our country.

America was founded on the principle that we're all created equal, and this solemn commitment to tolerance and freedom must continue to bind us as a nation. Our diverse culture enriches and broadens the American experience of which African-American heritage is an inseparable part. It weaves throughout our country's history, profoundly influencing every aspect of our national life.

We've come a long way since the days when white-only and colored-only signs disfigured our country's landscape and demeaned too many of our citizens. African-Americans have made great strides in recent years, commanding leadership positions in the public and private sectors in record numbers. Opportunities for education advancement, election, and mobility continue to expand among black Americans, and our country's moving ever closer to fulfilling its fundamental promise of equality for all.

Yet the truth is, many problems continue to plague our communities, tarnishing that ideal of equality because they affect African-Americans more adversely than the rest of us. The poverty, the drugs, the violence that afflict too many of our people in our communities, of all races and backgrounds, have severely harmed black children, women, and men, threatening our vision of a better world.

Throughout this month, we look to the lessons of our past for solutions to these crises, in the hope of building a brighter world for the future. Many such solutions can be found in the rich history of the African-American people. The speeches of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, the writings of W.E.B. Du

Bois, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, the powerful literature of Toni Morrison, Richard Wright, Alice Walker, and so many others explore the difficulties and the joys that pervade the African-American experience.

By rediscovering and celebrating this wealth of history, we can draw strength from the successes of these great leaders and determination from their example for the hard work in the days ahead to forge a new era of healing and hope. As we continually strive to embrace the talent and creativity of all our Nation's people, I want to give my best wishes to all of you for an exciting, productive, and renewing month.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**The President's Radio Address**

*February 5, 1994*

Good morning. This morning I want to talk with you about jobs, how more Americans can find new jobs and better ones, how we can help business to create those jobs, and how we can prepare our people to hold them.

I became President committed to growing the economy, cutting the deficit, and creating new jobs. A year later, we've made real progress toward all those goals. We brought down next year's projected deficit by \$126 billion, about 40 percent less than it was predicted to be. And in the past 12 months, the economy has created 1.9 million new jobs, 90 percent of them in private industry. In fact, more private sector jobs were created in the past year than in the previous 4 years. So together we've accomplished a lot. But we've got a lot more to do to achieve a lasting recovery that benefits every region of our country and every sector of our society. We must maintain budget discipline, continue our comprehensive strategy to create more growth and more opportunity for more

Americans, and make sure our workers and our young people especially have the new skills for the jobs that will be created.

On Monday, I'll submit the next installment of our plan for deficit reduction and economic growth. The budget cuts spending for more than 300 Government programs, completely eliminates more than 100 programs, and reduces the Federal work force by more than 100,000 and gives 7 to 14 Cabinet Departments less money than last year.

Meanwhile, we invest more in developing new technologies to create new jobs, in educating our children and training our workers for those jobs, and fighting crime and protecting the environment, and in giving our children a healthy start in life. We have to cut spending on yesterday's outmoded programs so we can bring down the deficit and still invest more in tomorrow's most urgent priorities.

This morning, I want to tell you more about one of our most important priorities: helping people from unemployment to work, from welfare to work, from school to work, and from lower paying work to better paying work. For all our success at creating new jobs, too many people are still looking for work, too many workers' wages are still stagnant and have been for two decades, and too many young people are not on track for good paying jobs.

Because the global economy and new technologies have changed the rules of the game, the only ticket to good jobs with growing incomes are real skills and the ability to keep learning new ones. That's why I've called for a revolution in education and training, from our schools to our unemployment offices to our job training programs. Our American workers must be the best educated, best trained, and most highly skilled in the world.

With our Goals 2000 program, we'll improve our schools, linking world-class standards to grassroots reforms all over America. With our school-to-work initiative, we're linking schools with workplaces and providing improved training for young people who want to go from high school to work. These initiatives have been approved by the House of Representatives and will be considered this week by the Senate.

Just as we need to train our young people, we must retrain millions of workers who have been displaced by technological change, by international trade, by corporate restructuring, and by reducing defense spending. Later this month, we'll introduce the "Reemployment Act of 1994" to consolidate dozens of different job training programs and convert the unemployment system into a reemployment system. We have to do this because the unemployment system and the patchwork of job training programs have been trapped in a time warp, frozen in bygone days when most laid-off workers could expect to be called back to their old jobs. Now we need one source of job training, counseling, and income support that workers can call upon as soon as they know they're losing their jobs because most workers won't be called back to their old jobs and because most younger workers can look forward to changing work seven or eight times in a lifetime.

The reemployment act will create one-stop job centers where every unemployed worker will be able to learn new skills, find out about new opportunities, and get help for themselves and their families. The plan works hand in hand with our plans for welfare reform and health care reform. We need to make every welfare office a work office where people will be encouraged to seize opportunities for training and jobs. And when we guarantee health security for every American, guaranteed private insurance that can never be taken away, then people will no longer be afraid that they'll lose their medical coverage when they move from welfare to work or from their old jobs to new ones.

Last week, I met with hundreds of workers, business people, and job trainers who told me how their communities have met the challenges of offering new skills and new opportunities. I was inspired by the drive and dedication of people like Deb Woodbury from Bangor, Maine, who lost a factory job and learned new skills as a marketing sales representative; Cynthia Scott of San Antonio, who went from welfare to a training program in nursing and a job in a hospital; Donald Hutchinson, a high school graduate from Detroit, who learned new skills as a machinist; and John Hahn of Niagara County, New York, who was laid off from a job he had

for 28 years and learned new skills for a new career as a biomedical technician.

Our economic plan is based on this simple but powerful truth: When you give ordinary people new opportunities, they'll do extraordinary things. The only way we can offer those new opportunities for education and training for new jobs and better jobs is to do the same things with the Federal budget that you do with your family budget, make tough choices, provide for the future, and make distinctions between luxuries and necessities.

In the weeks ahead, you'll hear the voices of those with a vested interest in the programs and policies of the past. I ask you to join me in fighting for the future. Together we've created almost 2 million jobs in just 12 months. We can create 2 million more in 1994, and we can prepare our working people and our young people for the jobs of the future. Together we can finish the job we began just one year ago if we keep working at it.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this address.

### **Statement on the Attack on Sarajevo**

*February 5, 1994*

I am outraged by this deliberate attack on the people of Sarajevo. There can be no possible military justification for an attack against a marketplace where women, men, and children of the city were pursuing their everyday lives. The United Nations should urgently investigate this incident and clearly identify those who are guilty.

I have directed that Secretary Christopher engage our allies in Europe and the United Nations on the situation and on appropriate next steps. As he and Secretary of Defense Perry have stated, we rule nothing out.

I have also directed the Department of Defense to offer its assistance in evacuating, hospitalizing, and treating those injured in this savage attack.

I know I speak for all Americans in expressing our revulsion and anger at this cowardly act.

### **Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters Prior to Departure for Houston, Texas**

*February 6, 1994*

#### **Bosnia**

**The President.** I have just completed a meeting with advisers discussing the terrible and outrageous incident in Sarajevo yesterday. I'm glad to report that the United States has been able to evacuate several of the wounded and their family members and they're on their way to a hospital in Germany. We'll be continuing to work on that.

I have asked Ambassador Albright to urge the United Nations to accelerate the efforts to try to confirm responsibility for the strike in the market yesterday. And I have approved having the Secretary of State and Ambassador Albright continue their consultations with our allies about what next steps should be taken in response to this particular incident and to make an effort to try to reach a settlement, hoping that the shock of this incident will perhaps make all parties more willing to bring this matter to a close.

The ultimate answer to all this killing is for the three parties to reach an agreement that they can live with and honor. There have been several times over the last couple of months when it didn't seem that they were all that far apart, and I hope that the shock of these deaths will reinforce to them, as it does to the entire world, that they ought to go on and reach a settlement. And we will do what we can to push that.

**Q.** Have you decided against air strikes, Mr. President?

**The President.** No, but it's not a decision—first of all, I want to give the U.N. a chance to confirm responsibility for this. Obviously, it seems highly likely that the Serbs are responsible, but there ought to be some effort to confirm it since their leader has denied it. And also, as you know, the authority under which air strikes can proceed, NATO acting out of area pursuant to U.N. authority, requires the common agreement of our

NATO allies. So I cautioned them on this at our NATO meeting. Many of them remain concerned that because they have soldiers on the ground—something we don't have—that their soldiers will be retaliated against if we take action from the air. That's not to say that there won't be retaliation, because we certainly discussed it in considerable length today, and I discussed it yesterday. But I just want to try to explain why there's more reluctance on the part of some of the Europeans than there is on the part of the United States, because they do have troops on the ground, and they are worried about some retaliation coming to those troops.

**Q.** What are your thoughts now on lifting the arms embargo?

**The President.** I've always been for it. I haven't changed my position on that. I do believe, however, that the appropriate thing to do now is to see if this horrible incident can be the spur to a vigorous effort to achieve a peace agreement. And that's what we ought to focus on now. If we continue to fail in the face of these kinds of incidents, I think that the United States position on the arms embargo is only reinforced by the kind of thing that happened yesterday. But I want to try to work with our allies now to take a shot at hoping we can bring this matter to a conclusion.

**Q.** Yesterday you said in your statement that you called the massacre a cowardly act. But some Members of Congress are saying that the U.S. is acting cowardly by repeatedly saying that they will consider air strikes without making good on those threats.

**The President.** Well, the United States, I will say again, under international law, in the absence of an attack on our people, does not have the authority to unilaterally undertake air strikes. And every time we discuss it, the other countries who have troops on the ground—and we don't. It's very well for these Members of Congress to say that; they don't have any constituents on the ground there. And the people who have constituents on the ground say, "Well, we have to think about whether our soldiers are going to be killed in large numbers in retaliation for this if you do it."

Now, as you know, I have long believed that we should have standby air strike author-

ity and that there are circumstances under which we should use it. In this case, again I want to say, the United Nations has not finished their confirmation process. And until they do, I think it would be inappropriate for me to make a final decision. But I do think you have to give some credence to the position of our European allies. They do have soldiers on the ground there who can be shot at and shelled long after our planes are gone, that is what is animating their position. That does not mean it won't happen this time. I have discussed it yesterday; I discussed it today. We are discussing it with our allies. But they are in a fundamentally different position, and they have been as long as they have had troops there.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:37 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Remarks at the American Cancer Society's Cattlebarons Children's Party in Houston, Texas**

*February 6, 1994*

**The President.** Well, hello, everybody.

**Audience members.** Hello.

**The President.** Have you had a good time at the party?

**Audience members.** Yes.

**The President.** Did you play some games?

**Audience members.** Yes.

**The President.** Some of you win?

**Audience members.** Yes.

**The President.** Well, that's good. I'm so glad to see all of you. I just came in from Washington on an airplane, and it was raining at the airport. And I'm glad to be here where it's dry. And I came in with your Mayor, Mayor Lanier, and Congressman Green. Who else is here? Is Congressman Washington here? Is anybody else here? Well, we're glad to see you, and I'm glad to be in Houston for a little while.

**Audience members.** That's all right.

**The President.** Yes, that's all right, isn't it?

You know, I—what's this? Is it for me? What's on that ring? What do you think?

Do you all want to ask me any questions? You do? What's your question?

### **The Presidency**

**Q.** What's it like being President?

**The President.** What's it like being President? Well, depending on what humor they're in, it can be a lot of fun. [Laughter] Listen, you want to know what's fun about it, what's good about it? What's good about it is I get to go all over America and meet all different kinds of people and know that I have to work for all of them, people of all ages and all races.

It's good because I get to do things that help people and help solve problems. One of the things that we are doing more of this year is putting more money into medical research, something that you support, right? [Applause] And another thing that I'm trying to do is to figure out how to put more money into medical research and, at the same time, make sure that health care is available to every child in this country, every child, including a lot of people who don't have it today.

So I get to see all different kinds of people and work on different problems and try to make life better. It's a wonderful job. Sometimes it's hard, but it's always a good job.

**Q.** [Inaudible]

**The President.** Well, you really get right to it, don't you? [Laughter] His question was—where are they? Here's the head of my detail. Do I like having Secret Service agents around me all the time? The answer to that is, the true answer is, yes and no. Yes, I like it because their job is to protect me and my family, and they do a wonderful job of it. And no I don't, sometimes I just like to be an ordinary citizen. I just wish that I could take my wife and daughter and walk down the street and go to the movie or go to a restaurant or go in a shop and go shopping and just be alone. But it's not going to happen for a few years.

Who else had their hand up over here? Yes, ma'am, what's your question? Your name is Danielle? You've got a great nose, Danielle. [Laughter] What's your question?

**Q.** How does it feel to live in—

**The President.** In the White House?

**Q.** Yes.

**The President.** How does it feel to live in the White House? Well, it's a great honor. Do you know, every President since 1800 has lived in the White House. Every President except for George Washington has lived there. So it's wonderful to live there, because I carry all this history around. I go in rooms all the time, and I know every other President's been there.

**Q.** [Inaudible]

**The President.** How old am I? [Laughter] I am very old. How old do you think I am?

**Q.** How old are you?

**The President.** How old do you think I am?

**Q.** Forty.

**The President.** Forty—oh, bless you. [Laughter] Bless you. Hey, hold on. Forty-six? Close.

**Q.** Forty-eight.

**The President.** I'm 47, 47.

**Q.** A hundred.

**The President.** One hundred—no. [Laughter] Listen, one at a time. What's your question? Stand up—what's your question? I've got you—yes, hold on. What's your question?

**Q.** [Inaudible]

**The President.** What do I do? I've been asking myself that lately. [Laughter] Well, first of all, I try to pass laws in the Congress that take care of the needs of the American people. I speak for the United States in the rest of the world. And I command the Armed Forces of the United States. Those are some of the things I do.

What?

**Q.** How do you like being President?

**The President.** I like it a lot. You'd like it, too, I think.

**Q.** What are your plans for the future?

**The President.** You mean for your future or for mine? For my future? You mean, what am I going to do when I grow up? [Laughter]

**Q.** When you're older.

**The President.** When I'm older.

**Q.** Yes.

**The President.** I'm just going to keep—I'm going to be the very best President I can be, and I'm not going to think about the future until I'm not President anymore.

Do you want to get down? Here, hold on, I've got your hand. Do you want to get down,

or do you want to stick with me? Nice boots. Hey, look at these boots. Let's give him a hand on these boots. I love them. [Applause] Better than mine. Do you like them better than mine?

Do you want to get down? You want to go down? Okay, I've got you.

Do you want to get up? Okay, you get up. You're next.

Okay, who's got another—go ahead, in the back.

Sh-h-h, I can't hear. Please be quiet so I can hear a question. Go ahead.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** Yes, sometimes it's hard having a lot of responsibilities. Most of the time I like it, actually. I like being responsible for people and for their interests. But sometimes it's hard. Sometimes you just want to get up and not go to work and not have those responsibilities. But most days I really like it. It's a great honor to be responsible for other people.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** Well, as President, I'm not supposed to express a preference, but I can tell you this: They earned it, didn't they? They did it by being good at what they did.

### **President's Activities**

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** What do I drive? Believe it or not, one of the things that happens to you when you're President, they don't let you drive anymore. Some people think that I got hundreds of thousands of votes so I wouldn't be able to drive anymore. [Laughter] The Secret Service drives me, but normally, they drive me in either a Cadillac or a Lincoln limousine that's bulletproof, where the doors and the windows are real thick like that.

*Q.* Did you ever have to wash dishes? [Laughter]

**The President.** Did I ever have to wash dishes? You bet. I bet I've washed more dishes than most people in this room. [Laughter] But I even wash dishes now every now and then, but not often. But I don't mind that. I've washed a lot of dishes in my life, though.

*Q.* Why do you jog?

**The President.** Why do I jog? Because if I didn't, I'd get fat—ter than I am. [Laughter] And because I like it.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** Do I get worn out traveling? When I travel a whole lot, I get tired. But I like to travel because it's the only way I get to see people in the country.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** Am I going to run in 1996? Don't bet against it. But I haven't decided yet.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** Why are they so thick? Why are they so thick? So the bullets don't break through. That's right. Good for you.

Yes, ma'am, what's your question? How does it feel when you're flying? Have you ever been in an airplane? Well, the truth is, most of the time it feels like it does on the ground. It's calm and nice and fun. But when you take off, it's real exciting because you're going up like that. And then sometime when you fly through a storm and it jumps up and down, it's kind of scary. But most of the time it's just normal.

*Q.* I thought you were 51.

**The President.** I'm not 51. Sometimes I feel like I'm 151, but I'm only 47.

That's the first person I shook hands with. Let's get a question there. Listen.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** What's my bowling average? I don't bowl enough to have one, but I think it's like about 135, about 135 for the last 8 games I've bowled. But when I was in high school, I had a 168 average. And I'm starting to bowl again, so I'm trying to—I bowled 149 this morning. But I'm not very good. But I want to be good again. I like it.

Okay, anybody who hasn't had a question?

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** My favorite sport? For me, personally, I like golf because that's the one I play the most. But I like watching basketball.

*Q. [Inaudible]*

**The President.** My favorite movie of all time, ever? My favorite movie of all time is "High Noon." My second favorite movie of all time is a movie called "Casablanca." And the best movie I've seen this year is

"Schindler's List"; that's what I think, in my opinion, closely followed by "Shadowlands."

**Q.** [Inaudible]

**The President.** Do I exercise? Yes, I go jogging five or six times a week, normally. And I have some weights I work out on, and I play golf as often as I can. The Secret Service jogs with me every day. And most of them are in better shape than I am and can run me to death. But sometimes I find one who is not in as good a shape as I am, and I enjoy that very much. [Laughter]

**Q.** [Inaudible]

**The President.** Yes, I want all of you who haven't shaken my hand before I leave, you come up here and shake hands with me. You certainly can.

Okay, one more question. What is it? Is this for me? What am I going to do with all these rings? You all are killing me with rings here.

### **The Presidency**

**Q.** How did you feel when you knew you became President?

**The President.** I was so happy, because I had worked very hard and because there were so many things I wanted to do. And I was really grateful, too. I just felt so grateful that people had given me that chance.

**Q.** What did you feel like when you weren't President, before?

**The President.** When I wasn't President? I was happy, too. I was happy then, too.

### **President's Health**

**Q.** How is your health?

**The President.** My health is good, I think. I just went to the doctor, and I had tests for 6 hours. And they said that my blood pressure was good, my heart was strong. I lost 15 pounds since last year, so I'm doing pretty good. I've got 15 more to go.

I'm going to go look at the quilt. But look, I shook hands with some of you coming up, so if you shook hands with me, back up and let all the kids who didn't get to shake hands come up, and I'll shake hands with all the kids who didn't.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:51 p.m. at the Four Seasons Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Bob Lanier of Houston. A tape was not

available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## **Remarks at the Texas Presidential Dinner and Gala in Houston**

*February 6, 1994*

Thank you very much. My longtime friend Garry Mauro, and Chairman and Mrs. Wilhelm, Mayor and Mrs. Lanier, Secretary and Mrs. Bentsen. I want to say that I have a lot to be grateful to Texas for, big victory in the primaries here, an enormous amount of support, a lot of friends. But I think I probably owe you most for Lloyd Bentsen and Henry Cisneros.

I want to say also how much I appreciate two other Texans in my administration, one of whom is here and one is not, the Secretary of the Navy, John Dalton, from San Antonio, and my good friend, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Bob Armstrong, who has done a wonderful job for you and for us in America.

When we had that terrible earthquake recently in California, Henry Cisneros was there before the aftershocks stopped. And people told me over and over again, "The last time this happened to us we had to go to Washington to find the Cabinet. Now you've got a Secretary who came to us, who's committed to us." That's the kind of job he's doing up there.

It's been a long time since an American Treasury Secretary has enjoyed anything approaching the prestige that Lloyd Bentsen has earned all over the world, in Asia, in Europe, in Latin America, and of course, here in the United States and in the Congress. I cannot say enough about him in front of you, his constituents, for all the advice he's given, all the leadership he's shown, and all the trouble he's kept me out of. [Laughter] I want to thank him so much.

I also want to say a special word of acknowledgement to your State Democratic Chairman, Bob Slagle, and to Governor Ann Richards, who I just left, and to all these Members of Congress who are here and those who aren't here.

I want to say, too, that there are several points I want to make tonight without giving

much of a speech. I just want to talk to you as one American to another.

When I became President, people had pretty much given up on the Government doing anything right. The economy was going in the wrong direction, and the country was coming apart when we needed to be coming together. And a lot of people, frankly, including probably a majority of people in this State, had all these preconceptions—Lloyd Bentsen referred to them in his introduction—about what Democrats were for. And you know, I looked for 12 years—I listened to Republicans talk about reducing the deficit, and it just went up; we quadrupled the debt.

Well, we didn't just talk about it, we did something about it. Last week it was estimated that the deficit would be 40 percent lower next year than it was going to be when I took office, 40 percent lower. And because of that, interest rates are down, inflation is down, home sales are up, car sales are up, and we got more new jobs in one year than we had in the previous 4 years. Now, that's not Republican rhetoric, that's Democratic record, performance, and work.

I heard them talk about family values and about how people should not be on welfare, they ought to work, but I never saw much happen. And one year, after 7 years of trying, we passed the Family and Medical Leave Act so that people could take a little time off when their children were born or their parents were sick without losing their jobs. We took the first big step toward welfare reform by giving income tax relief to 15 million families that hover right around the poverty line, even though the people work full-time, so that there would never be any more incentive to leave work and go on welfare, so that all the incentives would be the other way around and we would reward work and family. So it wasn't just the other party's rhetoric, it was our reality. And we've just begun.

And I heard them for years talk about being tough on crime, and after 7 years of flailing around, we finally passed the Brady bill. And now we've got a tough crime bill before the Congress which says no to the things we ought to say no to and begins to say yes to the things we ought to say yes to. That is, it does provide for tougher penalties,

especially for repeat violent offenders. But it also puts another 100,000 police officers on the street because we learned from Mayor Lanier that if you have more police in the right place, you'll lower the crime rate. And it provides drug treatment and education and alternative imprisonment for young people to give them a chance to put their lives back together. You can't just say no to people; you also have to say yes to the people that are going to be on your streets, in your neighborhoods, and a part of your future. It's time to stop turning away from them and start giving them a way to be a part of our common future. That is what it also does.

I heard all this talk for years about how the other party was for business and for trade and for small business, but it was our administration that passed an economic plan that gave, as they'll find this April 15th, 90 percent of the small businesses in this country a chance to get a tax cut if they invest more in their businesses, 90 percent; they gave incentives for people to invest in new business. This year we had the biggest increase in entrepreneurial investments in new business in American history, number one. That is the record of this administration, not rhetoric.

And yes, we have taken on health care. You know why? Because we're the only country in the advanced world that doesn't provide a basic package of health care to all of its citizens. And as a result, some of the people of the families I saw—you know, I went to a party tonight of children with cancer and their families. And I looked out there, and I said, I know I'm looking at people who now can never change their job because they had a sick child. I know I'm looking at people who run up against those lifetime limits on insurance, so now that their kids really need the health care, they've blown it out, and they can't get any more. I know I'm looking at people who may lose their coverage or lose their jobs and never get health insurance again.

Now, I don't believe we can't do that and help our economy, not hurt it. Why? Because today in America, businesses that are small are paying insurance premiums 35 percent above the national average. I think we can do better than that.

I don't believe that we can't do better. They talk about choice. Do you know that today only one in three, only one in three workers with health insurance from their employer has any real choice in their doctors? Under our plan, every American will have at least three different choices of health care plans at a minimum. There will be more choice, not less. And it will all be private, private health care and private insurance, in spite of the rhetoric of our opponents in the other party.

Do I think we can do it? Is it easy? No. If it's easy, somebody would have done it already. Is it free of complexity? No. I know one thing: You cannot justify a system in this country, in the shape a lot of people are in, where we spend 10 cents on a dollar more on paperwork, insurance premiums, and bureaucracy, more than any other country in the world, and we still can't figure out how to cover people. And another 100,000 Americans a month are losing their health insurance for good. I believe we can do better, and we are going to.

Finally, let me say this: I heard the other side talk about free trade and economic growth and, especially in Texas, being good to Texas. I heard all that. But this administration fought for NAFTA, and we were 100 votes down, and we came back and we passed it. This administration fought to get rid of export controls that are allowing Texas businesses to do business all around the world today. I had a man in a meeting that I came to before I came down here, he said, "Your administration has done more in one year to promote international business opportunities for American business people than the previous administration did in the last 12 years." That is the rhetoric of success. That is reality. That's not just something we're talking about.

Let me tell you something else. I know I didn't carry Texas in the last election. I know that. Some think I may not carry it again. But I'll tell you one thing: When the space station was going down, we fought for it, and we lifted it up, and we saved it. We now have a project that is at the core of our partnership with Russia and our hope for a better world.

There is example after example after example. In our new energy policy, Garry Mauro's alternative fleet conversion policy to use more natural gas to burn in Federal cars, and all the things we have done that show that this administration is not just talking about Texas and telling people things they want to hear, we're actually doing things to help this State move into the 21st century.

One of the people I neglected to introduce earlier, that I'd be remiss if I didn't, is the Deputy Secretary of Energy, who is from here in Houston, Bill White. Where is he? Bill's here somewhere. We have an energy policy that really is pro-natural gas, pro-American producer, good for America, and good for Texas.

I say these things because we're going to have some elections in 1994, and we're going to have all that old rhetoric again. And the Republicans are going to tell you exactly what they think you want to hear. I saw them the other day, they were complaining that I had stolen their themes, as if they own fiscal responsibility. What they own was quadrupling the deficit. What we own is a budget this year that eliminates 100 programs and cuts 300 more. That's our issue, not theirs. They act like they own the crime issue. But what they did was to fiddle around with crime for years while it got worse. And what we did was to pass the Brady bill and put a crime bill on the floor of the Congress that offers the promise of lowering the crime rate.

I say that because I want you here in Texas to remember that if you want something done, instead of to be told what you want to hear, you need to help us. You need to keep these seats in Congress, go after that Senate seat, keep Ann Richards in the Governor's office. Give us a partnership to move America forward.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:40 p.m. at the Wortham Center. In his remarks, he referred to Garry Mauro, Texas land commissioner, and David Wilhelm, chairman, Democratic National Committee.

## Remarks to the Greater Houston Partnership in Houston

February 7, 1994

Thank you very much. Secretary Bentsen, you said if I had been in any danger, I would have sent you to give this speech. You notice how quickly he got off the stage when it came my turn to talk? *[Laughter]*

I want to thank all those who preceded me—Ken Lay for his kind remarks. He and I had an unusual and, for would-be golfers, a lifetime opportunity. We got to play golf with Jack Nicklaus in Colorado last summer. Nicklaus won. *[Laughter]* It was good for both of our humility quotients.

I'm glad to see Mayor Lanier again. You know, I'll tell you a story about Mayor Lanier. He's the only person I know who actually turned down a personal tour of the Oval Office. It's a true story. He was up there one night, he and Mrs. Lanier were there, and we watched a movie, as I remember, in the White House movie theater. And I said, "If you want to go see the Office before you leave, I'll take you over there." And it was about midnight, and he said, "I don't do tours at midnight." And he went on to bed. *[Laughter]* And I thought, that was the kind of common sense that carried him to the mayoralty, wasn't it? People ought to be safe in Houston. I believe we ought to have more police officers and put them in the right places. And I didn't take it personally. I'm going to invite him back in 1997. *[Laughter]* I thought it was great.

And let me say about Lloyd Bentsen that I believe he'll go down in the history books as one of the great Treasury Secretaries in this century, not only because of his iron will in steering through the biggest deficit reduction package in history last year but because of the way he has worked with the private sector, with the Federal Reserve, with the other power centers in our country and the influence that he's exerted overseas from Russia to China to Latin America. It's a real source of comfort and reassurance to me to know that whenever I'm in a kind of a tough bind, I can call him on the phone and ask him for his advice. Sometimes I call him on the phone and ask him for advice about problems that have nothing to do with the Treas-

ury Department. And sometimes he smiles, and he says, "Gosh, I'm glad I don't have to make that decision." *[Laughter]* But most of the time he gives me good advice, and most of the time I follow it.

Let me also say, I know there are several Members of Congress here today, and I may miss some of them, but I see in the audience Gene Green, Craig Washington, Mike Andrews, and Jack Brooks. I don't know if I missed anybody else, but I thank you all for being here. They have to listen to me talk all the time. It's remarkable that they have the forbearance to come all the way home and listen to it again.

We're a little bit late today because I spent a good part of the morning dealing with the crisis in Bosnia. And I am sorry we're a little bit late, but I do want to just tell you what has happened before I go into my remarks, just briefly.

As you know, there was an outrageous attack on innocent civilians in Sarajevo on Saturday. And our Government is talking with our allies about what steps ought to be taken in response not only to this outrage but to the possibility of future attacks on innocent civilians in the future. We're also talking about whether there's something more we can do to help the parties agree to solve the conflict. Until those folks get tired of killing each other over there, bad things will continue to happen. And sooner or later they're going to have to decide that it's in their interest to let their children grow up in a world free of war.

The United Nations Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali has asked the North Atlantic Council to take the necessary decisions which would enable NATO's military forces to respond to requests for air strikes directed against artillery and mortar positions around the city of Sarajevo that can do the kind of horrible things you saw on Saturday. If the United Nations mission there determines who is responsible for the attacks—in other words, the Secretary-General has now asked that authority be given to our commanders there on the ground to take appropriate action. I very much welcome that request. I have hoped that that would be the case for some time. I have directed our representatives at NATO to support the Secretary-Gen-

eral's request when it is discussed there in the next couple of days.

That is all I have to report at this time except to say that, once again, I hope very much that the horror of all these innocent people dying will sober all those who are responsible and lead to a renewed effort to get a peace agreement there.

Now, having said that, I'd like to go back a little bit to talking about what I hoped to come to Houston to discuss today, which is how our Nation reconciles the need to bring the deficit down and be tough on the budget with our responsibilities to invest in the future and to work with you to grow the economy. If you take the position that Mayor Lanier took in 1991, you see a microcosm of what I think I should be trying to do as your President. He came here on a promise to put 655 more police officers on the street either by hiring new ones or working the present force overtime and to deploy them in the appropriate places with the goal of lowering the crime rate and making the people here feel more secure.

Since that time, the crime rate's dropped 22 percent, murders are down by 27 percent, and he's given America its best reason to have Congress pass a crime bill this year—[applause]—thank you—because we know that this is an issue without a party or a racial or an economic label and we know that the more vulnerable you are to other forces in society, the more vulnerable you also are to being a victim of crime.

So we're going to have a debate over the next couple of months, and these Members of Congress here will be a part of it, about what that crime bill ought to be. But one thing we know is if you have more police on the street and they are properly trained and they're properly deployed and they know the neighbors and they know the kids, they will not only catch criminals quicker, they will actually deter crime, which is, after all, what we ought to be trying to do, to reduce crime in the first place. Why? By taking a practical approach to a human problem and asking what is best for the people involved.

I want to thank the Greater Houston Partnership for your leadership on the NAFTA battle. And I want to say some things about that that I think I'm entitled to say since I

fought so hard for its ratification, some of which not all of you may agree with. But to me, the way that battle took shape is the way this country ought to work. And let me explain why. First of all, to pass it there was really a partnership required between Government and people in private business and a not insignificant number of working people who knew it was in their personal interest for it to pass. Secondly, to pass it there was a partnership between Democrats and Republicans, something which unfortunately is all too rare in Washington, even though it's more common in Houston, I would imagine. Thirdly, there was an honest debate about important issues. And even though I strongly disagreed with those who voted against it, there was a real core of legitimate concern. I thought the remedy, that is, beating NAFTA, was the wrong remedy. But the core of concern was real; that is, that in a global economy, people who control the flow of money and technology and production may or may not have interests that are always identical to the working people who live where they are located.

So there were honest debates that led to the first environmental side agreement in the history of any trade agreement—a good one—a labor standards agreement, a commitment that the Congress had to do more to retrain the American work force, dislocated not only by trade with our neighbors to the south but generally dislocated by the changing of the economy; an agreement to establish a North American development bank to try to help finance new businesses and small businesses in places where they need to grow in order to participate in what we hope will be a vibrant and growing two-way trade not only with Mexico but with all of our neighbors to the south. So the debate was about real issues and produced, in my view, the right result, the trade agreement that I believe so strongly in and a lot of other things that point the way toward making sure that it benefits all the people of the country.

And finally, I liked it because it was focused on the future. It required us all to imagine what we wanted Houston, Texas, and the United States to look like in the 21st century, what things are inevitable that we need to—these changes that are happening

that we need to make our friends instead of our enemies. How could we shape the future?

Now to me, that's what public life ought to be about. Whoever you vote for and whatever you say, people get together like this and they argue and talk about real issues in the spirit of partnership, thinking about the future, focusing on how it affects ordinary people. And I liked it a lot. In the environment in which I operate now, as opposed to the one in which I operated when I was a Governor, there tends to be too little partnership and too much partisanship. There tends to be too little focus on the future and an absolute obsession about the past. There tends to be too little action and a world of talk.

Now, we have some big challenges as a country. Make no mistake about it, we have enormous strengths. A lot of things are going well in America. We have underlying strengths which are beginning to benefit us now that have always been there. But the way we continue to move into the future is to cherish our strengths, but to honestly face our problems and our challenges.

Now, for the 4 years before I became President, for all kinds of reasons, we had the slowest economic growth in half a century and very low job growth. For the 12 years before I took office, the national debt quadrupled in only 12 years after 200 years of history in which it was more or less constant, except during wartime when it went up. In those 12 years, the cost of health care exploded at 2 and 3 times, sometimes more, the rate of inflation. And yet every year a smaller percentage of our people were covered with health insurance, with consequences, I might add, that were dramatically, I thought, put forward by a very articulate letter to the editor in one of your newspapers today by a local physician, which I commend to you.

For 20 years, for 20 years, since about 1974, after the last big energy crisis then and globalization of our financial system, the wages of most American hourly wage earners have been stagnant. It's not a partisan issue, this is something that's happened through 20 years. And for about 30 years, the American family unit has been under great stress, par-

ticularly in areas of economic distress, so that now millions and millions of young Americans are being born into families where there was never a marriage; in a community where the local community institutions that used to shore up kids in trouble, the churches, the businesses, and the other things, are weaker than ever before; and where there is no business investment to give people economic hope and where very often only the churches and a few nonprofit organizations are like the proverbial kid with their thumb in the dike holding back the deluge. And often they come in contact with the rest of us when we catch them breaking the law and we're telling them not to do something, instead of earlier in their lives when we could have given them a chance to be a part of this partnership represented in this room today. Now, those are the challenges we face in a world that is changing very rapidly, where the economy is increasingly globalized.

I ran for this job because I wanted this country to roar into the 21st century still the greatest nation on Earth, with the kids in this country looking forward to the brightest future any generation of young Americans ever had, and because I believed that to do that we had to restore the economy, rebuild a sense of community in an increasingly diverse America—look around this room—and make the Government work for ordinary people again. Make it make sense instead of having people so alienated from it.

Now to do that, it seems to me that we have to stop focusing so much on yesterday's labels and focus more on tomorrow's goals. The issue isn't whether we go left or right, it's whether we can go forward. And if we don't go forward, it doesn't matter whether we're stuck left or right.

Historically, if you look at the whole history of this country, we have done well because we had strong shared values and we were increasingly, when we needed to be, pragmatic and progressive at the same time. We were philosophically conservative in the sense that we never thought we ought to change our values and operationally progressive in the sense that we were always ready to look at a changed set of circumstances and move into the breach. And I would argue to you that that's what we face today.

Our administration took office with a clear economic strategy that was first premised on getting the deficit down, to get lower interest rates, lower inflation, higher investments, and more jobs.

Second, on increasing trade, because it's perfectly obvious if you look at the stagnant employment situation in Europe, in Japan, or in the United States, that no great wealthy nation can grow wealthier and create jobs unless you have more customers for your goods and services. That's what NAFTA was about. That's what the GATT agreement was about. That's what meeting with the Asian leaders was about. That's what this hemispheric summit next year with all the leaders—or this year—with all the leaders of Latin America is about. That's what lifting billions of dollars of controls on exports of high technology goods, so that we can now sell them in the aftermath of the cold war, is about. We've got to have more customers for our goods and services.

Third, on trying to stake out an American position in the new technologies of the 21st century, that means maintaining the technologies we have to have to keep our defense the strongest in the world, some of them being maintained by work being done in this State. It means as we downsize defense, having an aggressive defense conversion strategy so we can make the most of all the work that has been done and all we've already paid for, through the development of dual-use technologies. It means keeping our undisputed leadership in space, which is what the fight for the space station was all about. It means doing more in areas that are critically important where we have an undisputed lead like medical research, something you know more about here in Houston than virtually any other place in the country. It means building the information superhighway that the Vice President is so strongly advocating. It means making the environment a job creator instead of job loser. And it means having a sensible energy policy. The administration's oil and gas initiative was complimented recently by Dennis Hendricks, one of your distinguished leaders in this organization. And I thanked him before I came in for saying that it was a positive direction, nonintrusive but seeking to improve the environment in

which we operate. That's the way we're trying to approach this.

The next thing we've got to do is to focus on specific things we can afford to do to help generate new business and small business. The Secretary of the Treasury and I were talking while Mayor Lanier was giving his speech. In our economic plan last year, one of the things that wasn't noticed is the huge increase in the expensing provision for small business, which made 90 percent of the small businesses in this country eligible for a tax cut on April 15th if they invested more in their businesses, a new small business capital gains tax that Ventura Capital Association had asked for for years, and an extension of the research and development tax credit. This last year, we had a record increase in venture capitalizations of small companies in this country. That's what's going to generate the jobs of the 21st century and keep us ahead. We have to continue to focus on it.

Finally, the economic strategy has a strong education and training component. And I'll talk a little more about that in a moment. But the first thing we had to do was to cut the deficit, to reduce spending, to increase some taxes, to put the money in a rigorous system which would bring the deficit down over 5 years, and to reduce the size of the Federal Government.

Now, before this plan took effect last year, the 1995 deficit was projected to be \$302 billion. Now, it's expected to be \$176 billion, a 40 percent reduction. That's why interest rates are down and inflation is low and investment is up. And if we keep doing it, we'll have 3 straight years in a row where the deficit has gone down for the first time since Harry Truman was President. I was stunned, by the way, when my researchers gave me that. I made them go back and check three times. I said, that can't be true. It turns out it is.

Now, if you look what's happened, we've had millions of Americans refinance their homes and businesses. You've got core inflation at its lowest rate in 20 years. You've got long-term interest rates at historic lows. If we can keep this going, you will bring the economy back, the private sector will. And it is the most important thing.

Last year, this country created almost 2 million new jobs; 90 percent of them were in the private sector. For years we've had an enormous percentage of our jobs created primarily by State and local government. Last year 90 percent of the new jobs came in the private sector. This country is enjoying strong economic growth in spite of the continuing problems in Europe and Japan. And we can continue to do it if we have the discipline to keep the deficit coming down.

And I want to say something in defense of the people who voted for that economic program last year. Any Member of the Congress will tell you that if that budget had not passed when it did, NAFTA would never have passed, because we would have spent all of August, all of September, and all of October wallowing around Washington, fighting with each other about the nickels and dimes around the edges of the budget instead of focusing on NAFTA. We were about 100 votes down when the NAFTA fight started. It would not have passed if the budget hadn't passed first. The two things went together, and if that would have happened, we'd never had the GATT agreement. So it is very important, it seems to me, to recognize now that what we have to say is the thing worked, and we have to build on it.

Today, our second budget is being presented in Washington, and the Budget Director Leon Panetta will deliver it to Congress and talk about its details. I just want you to know what the second budget does. It continues to cut spending because these budget caps are very tight. It's the toughest budget on spending cuts the Congress has yet seen.

Listen to this: More than 60 percent of the major accounts in the Federal budget are cut. That means more than 350 specific non-defense programs are being cut, and over 100 of them are being eliminated outright. It's been a long time since that's been done. If the Congress adopts it, it will keep the deficit coming down, it will keep interest rates down, it will send a clear signal to the Fed and to the rest of the world that we mean business and that the investment climate will continue.

These lower interest rates, if they can be maintained, will save over \$20 billion in deficit in next year's budget alone and over \$150

billion in the next 5 years. Seven of the 14 major Cabinet departments are taking budget cuts. The Federal bureaucracy is slashed by 118,000 under this plan. That puts us ahead of the goals set by the Vice President's reinventing Government task force, which had us at 100,000 this year. And by the way, when we go through this thing in 5 years, we will have reduced Federal Government by attrition and management by 252,000 so that by 1998 the Federal Government will be smaller than it has been in over 30 years. Why? Because if we don't do it, we can't keep the economy going in the right direction, and we won't have any money to spend on the things that 90 percent of you think we should spend more money on.

So most people read mysteries and not budgets. Most people think the budget is a mystery. *[Laughter]* But I hope that you will encourage the members of your delegation, especially this year when we're not having this contentious fight over the tax issue, to vote for this budget. Because if we don't do it, we cannot keep the economic recovery going. And if we do it, we can keep the recovery going.

We can also find the money we need to invest in some things that I think are important. If we didn't reduce spending, if we don't reduce spending in some of yesterday's programs, we won't have the money to spend on the crime bill. Those things cost money, too. That crime bill has 100,000 more police officers, has more money to help the States build penitentiary beds, which you know a lot about in Texas, has funds for boot camps for first-time nonviolent offenders, and funds for drug treatment so that a lot of these young people who get out don't come back.

If we don't do it, we won't have money for what's called the technology reinvestment project. Texas has gotten \$25 million in it so far, to help develop dual uses, commercial uses for defense technology. If we don't do it, we can't do the information superhighway. If we don't do it, we'll have a very tough time holding on to the space station, because we have to slash other things to keep the space program going. If we don't do it, we won't be able to fully fund the highway program. And if we don't do it, I'm afraid some people will come back at defense, and I am

unalterably opposed to cutting the defense budget any more. We have cut it a great deal, and I don't believe we can responsibly cut it more. I mean, we're cutting it, but I don't want deeper cuts in it.

If we don't do it, we can't pay to redesign the unemployment system in the country. It's a big deal. A lot of you work a lot of people. This unemployment system that you're paying taxes into was designed for a time in the 1950's and sixties when the average person lost a job, was laid off, and eventually was called back to his or her old job. Now, most people who are laid off never get called back to their old job. The average person will change work seven or eight times in a lifetime, and the only cure for the fear of being unemployable is to be able to constantly learn new skills.

Therefore, we believe that the present crazy-quilt patch of 150 Government training programs and an unemployment system that is essentially passive until the benefits run out is wrong. We think when people lose work they should immediately start training for the next job and that your tax money shouldn't be squandered, essentially, paying people to live while they pursue a vain hope at a lower standard of living. And instead, we ought to have a reemployment system where people really can immediately and always be retraining if they lose the job they have. But we can't do it, if we don't cut the rest of the budget.

This budget provides for the beginning of a national apprenticeship program for kids that don't go to college. Most of the new jobs won't require a college education. But you've got a chance of doubling your income when you get out of high school if you just get 2 years of further training. Our school-to-work initiative makes a big start on that. This budget will pay to implement the Goals 2000 program, which started back in 1989 when President Bush and the Governors negotiated some national education goals that I helped to draft then in my former life. This bill gives us a chance to achieve those goals by having national standards that are world-class and supporting local reforms of all kinds around the country. We can't fund this bill if we don't cut the rest of the budget. This budget dramatically increases the Head Start

program. A young lady said to me today, if we could start all these kids in Head Start we'd have fewer of them getting in trouble later on. It dramatically increases Head Start. If we don't cut the budget, we can't increase Head Start.

So I say to all of you, I hope you will support this process. It is not easy to eliminate 100 Government programs, because somebody likes them. It's not easy to cut 350; somebody likes them. Henry Cisneros has done a brilliant job at HUD. His budget increases funding for homelessness in a way that actually gets people off of the homeless rolls permanently. His budget gives more housing vouchers to people who are eligible, to let them go out into the private sector and make their own decisions about where to live and let the markets work.

Do we cut some other programs? You bet we do. Why? There's \$8 billion in the HUD pipeline that should have been spent 2 or 3 years ago that can't be spent because of Government redtape. So Secretary Cisneros says we've got a homeless problem in this country. We have people out there, working people, who are eligible for help. Give them the vouchers, get them out there, let the system work, and cut something else.

If you want us to follow some of these energy initiatives that we're doing through the national labs—you've got one of your own, Bill White's sitting over there, is the Deputy Secretary of Energy. We've got to cut the rest of the budget if you want us to do the things that will enable us to explore the new technologies which may revive the energy sector in this country. So I implore you to tell the folks that represent you, it's okay to cut to get the deficit down and to spend more where we need to spend it.

Now, let me just make this one final remark. You might say, "Well, that's fine you're going to really cut the deficit, but it's still going to be really big in 1998." And you would be right. And I want you to know here in Houston why that is. How can you cut defense, freeze domestic spending, hold Social Security within inflation, have revenues growing, and have the deficit going up? Answer—there is only one answer now, especially if this budget passes, there will only be one answer. The answer is: When I took

office the Medicaid budget, health care for poor folks, was supposed to increase by an annual rate of between 16 and 11 percent a year over the next 5 years, and the Medicare budget, health care for the elderly, was going to increase by a rate of between 11 and 9 percent a year over the next 5 years. And if we do not reform our health care system, in 10 years we will be spending all your Federal tax money, all your new Federal tax money, on health care and nothing else. And we'll be spending it for the same health care, not for new health care.

Now, let me drive this home. We estimate the Medicare budget will go up, let's say, 10 percent this year, when the case load's going up and general inflation is 3.5 percent, that the Medicaid budget would go up 12 percent with the case load going up 2 percent and inflation where I said.

Now, the only thing I want to say about the health care debate today is this, because I know you have to go, but I want you to think about this. I had a doctor in my office Saturday, a Republican from another State who has mobilized hundreds and hundreds of doctors in a professional unit. He came in and said, "I am one of the few people in America who has actually read your bill. And I like it." But he said, "You see, I don't understand what is going on out there." He said, "I read all this stuff, people that are for you, the people that are against you, and they're saying all this that doesn't have anything to do with what's going on out there in the real world." So without going into the details, let me just ask you to focus on this: Every plan proposed by anybody is a private plan. It keeps health care providers private and keeps insurance private, every one, including ours.

The issue then—let's talk about this. Which plan would give more choice to consumers than the others? The answer is ours would, but you can check that out. Consumers are rapidly losing choice in the present system. Only about one in three workers today insured at work has any choice at all over who the medical provider is. Which plan would do the most to keep some funding for the academic health centers, the kind of centers that have made Houston the medical capital of the United States? Of the three

major plans, ours is the only one that attempts to do anything for these academic health centers. Now, we have representatives here in the audience, they'll tell you we haven't done enough. We can fix that. That's peanuts in the context of the larger budget if that's a problem. But this is a big issue that never even gets raised.

Which plan would cover more primary and preventive services? You talk to anyone that runs a hospital and they'll tell you that all of us are paying too much for our health insurance because the people who don't have any coverage only get health care when they're too sick, it's too late, they show up in an emergency room, and it costs out the wazoo, and then the hospital has to pass the cost along to someone else.

Can you achieve the real goals for the health care system and ever get the deficit under control—two things at once—if everybody doesn't have to assume some responsibility for providing health care for themselves and for employees? This is a tough question, not free of difficulty. What about all the people who have part-time workers? What about small businesses? The problem is 70 percent of small businesses do provide health insurance for their employees, and their rates are 35 to 40 percent higher than big business and Government rates. Anybody that's in a Federal health care plan, let me tell you, folks, is getting a good deal now.

Now again, I say this in the context of this budget so that you can remember that I said it 4 years from now. There will be no ultimate solution to the Federal deficit until we reform the Medicare-Medicaid expenses and get them closer to the rate of inflation. That cannot be done, in my opinion, having studied this for years as a Governor who used to have to break our budget every year on it, until there is some system by which all Americans have access to basic primary and preventive health care. But we have to do it in a way that preserves what is best about health care, which is the system of private providers that is a shining monument here in Houston, and to do it in a way that overall helps the American business economy, not hurts it.

Now, is it easy to do? No. If it was easy, somebody would have done it already. It's

the most complicated thing in the world. How could it not be, it's 14.5 percent of our gross national product. But we must address it if you wish to solve the Federal Government's budgetary problems. Otherwise, you mark my words, within a couple of years, you'll have to give up the space program and everything else just to pay more for the same health care. And we cannot do that.

So I look forward to this health care debate in the spirit of excitement. This is important. This is the way I felt about NAFTA. If we can just be honest with one another and focus on the future and work through this thing, this is going to be one of the most exhilarating experiences this country ever went through because we're facing up to our challenges. But first we have to keep the deficit coming down, and we have to pass this budget. It ought not to be a partisan issue, and I need your help to do it.

Thank you, and bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:50 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Ken Lay, chairman, Greater Houston Partnership, and professional golfer Jack Nicklaus.

### Telephone Conversation With the Space Shuttle *Discovery* Astronauts From Houston

February 7, 1994

**The President.** This is the President.

**Commander Charles Bolden.** Yes, sir. We can hear you very much. Welcome aboard.

**The President.** How are you, Commander Bolden?

**Commander Bolden.** I'm doing very fine. Our crew is hanging in there, and we're having a good time, enjoying it.

**The President.** Well, you seem to be having a good time. You've had a perfect launch and an exciting mission. And I want to congratulate you.

I've just been in the simulator, and I've applied to be an astronaut, but I haven't been accepted yet. [Laughter]

**Commander Bolden.** I'm certain if you pull a few strings there, you might be able to make it. [Laughter]

**The President.** You're the only person who has invited me to abuse my power since I've been President. [Laughter] I want to——

**Commander Bolden.** While we have a second, may I introduce you to my crew?

**The President.** Please do.

**Commander Bolden.** At my right is my pilot, Ken Reightler, who is in the United States Navy. Behind him is Dr. Ron Sega, who is mission specialist number two on the crew, like our flight engineer, and he's also one of the coprincipal investigators for the Wake Shield, one of the experiments we have on board.

Right over my head here is our guest from Russia, Sergei Krikalev, who right now is the second longest person to ever be in space and has spent 5 months and 10 months on two different flights on *Mir*.

To Sergei's left is Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz, originally from Costa Rica and now a full-fledged citizen of the United States, who is on his fourth flight.

To my left is Dr. N. Jan Davis, who has been a prime op, our mess operator working the arm for this flight. I'm really fortunate to have a great crew with me here, sir.

**The President.** I want to say especially how proud we are to have Sergei up there, the first Russian cosmonaut on the space shuttle. You ought to know that Yuri Koptev, who is the head of the Russian Space Agency, is here with me at Mission Control as we're speaking. So we're all looking at all of you, Russians and Americans together, and we like what we see.

**Commander Bolden.** Well, we appreciate that, sir. And we've had a great time. In fact, I think many of the things that we've done have given us an opportunity to demonstrate that if people decide to put their minds toward a common goal there's no limit to what can be done. And we've done a little bit of that on this flight, although it's been frustrating to people on the ground and up here. I think we've done a very good job, and everybody on the ground and here is really benefiting from what we're doing.

**The President.** Well, I agree with that. And I think we'll look back on this as the first step toward the kind of international cooperation we need to build the whole space

station, with Russia and Canada and Europe and Japan.

I keep coming in and out. Can you hear me now? Can you hear me?

**Commander Bolden.** Yes, sir. It keeps going in and out, but we are getting the gist of your conversation.

**The President.** The American people would be happy if they only had to listen to every third word, too, I think. [Laughter] Sometimes the truth is funnier than fiction, huh?

I love Dr. Davis' hairdo. I think it will be a rage back in America when she comes—[Laughter].

**Commander Bolden.** Well, let me allow Sergei to say a few words to you, first in Russian, and then he'll do the translating after that.

**The President.** Thank you.

[At this point, Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev spoke in Russian.]

**The President.** Somebody has got to translate.

**Cosmonaut Krikalev.** I just am glad for the program. I said, "I welcome aboard space shuttle."

**The President.** Thank you very much. You know, I have here—he just gave me the translation. He translated his own Russian. One of my goals is to have someday most Americans be able to do that in another language, too. I hope we can do that.

I want to say, you know, we have the head of NASA, Dan Goldin, here. We have Congressman Brooks, Congressman Brown, Congressman Walker here. And we're all watching you with great pride.

And I also want to say, we followed a lot of the scientific purposes that are associated with your mission. And I'm especially interested in the whole issue of superconductivity, which I think has enormous potential for drastically changing the way we do things down here on Earth, and a lot of the other things you're doing.

I just want to congratulate you for being up there and for—as I said, I think this is the first step in what will become the norm of global cooperation in space. And when we get this space station finished, with the contributions of Russia, Canada, Japan, Europe,

and the United States, it's going to be a force for peace and progress that will be truly historic, and you will have played a major role in that.

**Commander Bolden.** Mr. President, we just want to thank you again for joining us here on *Discovery*. And we're really proud to be able to serve the American people up here and show what happens when you can work peacefully together.

**The President.** Thank you very much. I also want to say before I sign off how much I appreciate all the crew down here, the men and women who have worked to make your mission a success. And again, I think I can speak for all of us, we're going to do everything we can to keep supporting the space program and the space station. And I hope what America is seeing of you today, particularly the cooperation between the United States and Russia in space, which is a reflection of what we're trying to do here on Earth, I hope that will strengthen the support among the American people for the space program and the space station in particular.

Thank you so much. We're all very, very proud of you.

Jack, do you want to say anything?

**Representative Jack Brooks.** I want to just tell them that we're awfully grateful to have them——

**The President.** You can only talk on this one? Here.

**Representative Brooks.** Well, as a Congressman from this district, I'm just delighted to welcome you all and congratulate you on your achievements up there and wish you a safe return home.

**The President.** George, do you want to say anything?

**Commander Bolden.** We thank you very much.

**The President.** I want George Brown from California to talk. He's been working for this space program for years.

**Representative George Brown.** Hi. It's a great pleasure for me to be able to personally communicate with you. I told the President that I had communicated with Russian astronauts several years ago and I wanted a chance to talk to some American astronauts in space. And this is the opportunity. We'll keep working for you.

**The President.** Do you want to say anything?

**Commander Bolden.** Well, thank you very much, sir. And we appreciate all of your support and hope that all of you will—[inaudible]—just by showing your interest by being there, I'm certain that that sends a very strong message. We appreciate it.

**The President.** Well, we want this to be bipartisan so I've got to get Congressman Walker on the phone here. We can prove that Republicans can talk in space. [Laughter]

**Representative Robert Walker.** Well, thank you, Mr. President, I think.

I'm delighted, too, to congratulate you on your mission. You're helping us as a nation to understand what we can achieve in space, and I think that that's going to do well for the space program in the future. So thanks very much for all you are doing.

**Administrator Daniel Goldin.** Hello. I just want to tell how proud I am. I mean, this is the best day of my life, having the President of the United States in our control room. Mr. President, on behalf of NASA, its employees, the people in space, we love you to be here, and we're so proud.

**The President.** Thank you.

Goodbye folks. Come home to us. Bring that hairdo home, Jan. I love it.

**Mission Specialist N. Jan Davis.** I'll do my best.

**The President.** You're being in a photo-op now. You can't see that.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:06 p.m. from Mission Control at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center.

### **Message to the Congress Reporting Budget Rescissions and Deferrals** February 7, 1994

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report one revised deferral of budget authority, totaling \$1.6 billion, three revised rescission proposals, and 27 new proposed rescissions of budget authority. The total of the rescission proposals included in this special messages is \$1.6 billion.

When combined with rescissions that went to the Congress on November 1, 1993, there are \$3.2 billion in rescissions pending before the Congress.

The details of the revised deferral, which affects International Security Assistance, are contained in the attached report. The proposed rescissions affect International Security Assistance Programs; the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Housing and Urban Development, State, Transportation, and the Treasury; the General Services Administration; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the Board for International Broadcasting; the National Science Foundation; and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
February 7, 1994.

### **Remarks to General Motors Employees in Shreveport, Louisiana** February 8, 1994

**The President.** Thank you very much. Jack, thank you for the introduction, even from such a distance. You look good on this movie screen, although it's cut up in 16 parts. It looks like a lot of the bills I have to deal with in Congress. [Laughter] But you still look like a whole person. I want to thank Jack Smith and my good friend Owen Bieber. I want to thank Guy Briggs and Steve Yokich for being here with me today. And I want to thank all of you for welcoming me to this plant and to the world of General Motors.

I was delighted that people all over the country will be able to watch this in other plants. I want to say a special word of thanks to the people at the GM plant in Baltimore, Maryland. I was supposed to visit them last week, and I lost my voice after the State of the Union. So if I had come, they might have loved it. I couldn't have said a word, I just would have had to listen to them. [Laughter] But anyway, I didn't. I also want to thank the Grambling band for the music today. That was great, and I thank you. What? What high school?

**Audience members.** Airline.

**The President.** Airline High School.

I'd also like to say that I've been trying to think of a diplomatic way to ask for one of these pickups behind me. *[Laughter]* I owned, when I was a younger man and had a life, I owned an El Camino pickup in the seventies. It was a real sort of southern deal. I had Astro turf in the back. *[Laughter]* You don't want to know why, but I did. And I drove it literally until the blocks broke. I drove it until it just wouldn't go anymore. And you know, when I retire maybe I can have another pickup.

I want to say a special word of thanks for the presence here with me of some people that are going to have to help make these health care decisions and other decisions we're making this year: Senator Breaux and Senator Johnston from Louisiana, Congressman Jimmy Hayes, Congressman Cleo Fields, Congressman Bill Jefferson, and Mrs. Johnette McCrery, the wife of Congressman McCrery; they're all here. And I also want to thank Lieutenant Governor Melinda Schwegmann for joining us today. All of them have come to be with me, and I thank them for that.

I want to begin by talking about a few things besides health care just real quickly. I listened to what was said up here on this platform before I got here, the way that people talked about the teamwork that you have here at this plant, the product that you produce, the fact that you're going to be able to sell them not only in America but beyond America's borders.

You know, when I was the Governor of your neighboring State to the north, that's what I thought public life was about. I thought my job was to get people together and to get things done. I thought it was pretty simple, and I was supposed to get people together and get things done. And I ran for President because I looked at Washington and I saw 12 years in which we were coming apart when we ought to be coming together, when I didn't think anything was getting done, when we quadrupled the deficit, had low job growth, nobody's income was going up, and the middle class was getting socked. That's what I thought was going on, and I still believe that was what was going on. And I ran for President because I wanted to try to help bring the economy back, bring the

country together, and make the Government work for ordinary people again, because I have always believed that if you give ordinary Americans the ability to succeed, they'll do extraordinary things. I don't think this is very complicated. I think if you give people a fair shot at the American dream, they will do extraordinary things.

Thanks to the UAW and others, we made a good beginning on that. Last year we passed the family and medical leave law, so that workers all over America could be successful workers and good parents. They could take a little time off if a baby was born or a parent was sick without losing their job. In the economic plan, we rewrote the student loan bill so that the children of working class people can borrow money to go to college at lower interest rates and have longer repayment terms tied to the jobs they have, so they won't ever be discouraged from going to college for fear they won't be able to repay their loans. And we passed the national service bill to give 100,000 young people, year after next, the chance to pay off their college education by working for their communities to solve problems here at home, things that help ordinary people to deal with their lives.

We passed a bill that begins to reduce the deficit. Next year the deficit is going to be 40 percent less than it was projected to be when I came into office. I heard all this talk from others about it; we did something about it. We did it by cutting spending and by asking only the top 1.2 percent of American earners to pay an increase in their income tax to bring the debt down. But look what we got for it: low interest rates, low inflation, high investment, car sales up, home sales up. Millions of Americans, including people in this room, I bet, have refinanced their homes in the last year. We had 1.9 million new jobs, 90 percent of them in the private sector, not in the government, which had provided a lot of the job growth in the eighties—State and local government. We have begun to turn this thing around. Now, I know a lot of people still haven't felt it, but we are moving in the right direction basically by putting the people of this country first.

Yesterday I offered another budget. It eliminates over 100 Government programs entirely, cuts over 300 Government programs

so we can save the money to bring the deficit down and to spend more on the things that count.

What are we going to spend more on? Redoing the unemployment system to make it a reemployment system, so people can be trained for the jobs of the 21st century. We're going to spend more helping States set up systems to move young people who don't go to college into jobs with 1 or 2 years of further training, so they will be well-trained and they can get good jobs, not dead-end jobs. That's worth more money.

We're going to spend more to help our schools meet world-class standards and support local reforms, to meet the standards that will guarantee that when young people get out of high school they'll actually know enough to learn the skills they need to know to work in places like this. These are things that it is worth spending some more money on.

This year we're also going to move forward on a crime bill. Most Americans, I think, have finally become aroused at the level of violence in this country, and they're ready to do something about it. Last year, after 7 years of fooling around, we finally passed the Brady bill, which at least gives us a chance to check into the criminal records of people who seek to buy guns.

Let me tell you what this crime bill does. This crime bill will say, number one, if you commit three violent crimes, you shouldn't be paroled ever; "three strikes and you're out". Number two, this crime bill acknowledges the fact that we actually know how to reduce the crime rate. I came from Houston yesterday. The crime rate in Houston today is 22 percent lower than it was a year and a half ago; the murder rate is 27 percent lower than it was a year and a half ago. You know why? They put another 655 police officers on the street, in the high crime areas, working with the law-abiding citizens who live there. They know their neighbors; they know the kids. They help get the kids out of trouble; they help get them out of gangs and into good, productive activities. And they are working not only to catch criminals but to lower the crime rate. This bill would put another 100,000 police officers on the street, and I hope you will support it.

The last thing we're going to do in addition to health care this year, I hope, is to continue the work of reforming the welfare system. There are millions of Americans trapped in welfare who want to go to work, who want to be good parents and good workers. Most of them are young women with little children. Most of them have almost no education. Most of them are part of a 30-year decline in the American family and in the communities they live in and the loss of jobs. You know it as well as I do. And many of them live and raise these children in neighborhoods where, because the families are weak, the communities are weak, and there aren't any jobs, gangs and guns and drugs and violence have moved into the vacuum. We have got to help them turn their lives around.

We took a big step this year. This April 15th, when the taxes come due, 15 million working Americans with children, who are hovering right around the poverty line even though they work full-time, will get a tax cut so that they will never be encouraged to choose welfare over work. They will choose work over welfare. The welfare reform bill will say: We're going to give you education and training and child support and health care. But after 2 years, if you don't have a job, you've got to go to work once you get these services. You do it, and others should, too.

But so many of these things we want to do—bringing back the economy, bringing down the deficit, reforming the health care system—require reforming the welfare system, require addressing the health care problem. And I want to explain to you how all these things are related.

First of all, you know you've got great health care benefits and good security, but do you know most working people in the last several years who have good health care benefits have had to give up wages to keep the health care benefits? And one reason is that General Motors and people like you all over the country are paying too much for your health care because other people don't pay anything for their health care. So when they get it, they get it when it's too late, too expensive, at the emergency room. They pass the cost on to you. You know that.

One reason people don't leave welfare is, if you're really poor, your children get health care through the Medicaid program. If you take work at an entry-level job with no health care, you've got to stick it to your kids. You've got to give up the health care to go to work. So you've got this crazy system in America where you've got working people paying income taxes who don't have health care for their children, and they're paying income taxes to pay for health care for people who don't work. It's a crazy system.

We're working to bring this deficit down. You've got a base here in this area. I'm telling you, we have cut defense a lot, but we can't cut defense any more and take care of this country. We are cutting it a lot. We shouldn't cut it any more. We have frozen domestic spending, which means I have to cut things in order to increase the job training programs I talked to you about. The only thing that is increasing in this budget is the cost of health care.

Why is it going up so much? Because we don't have a system in America in which everybody is covered, in which people get primary and preventive health care, and in which there is some limit on how much the insurance companies can do to decide who's got insurance and who doesn't. It's a terrible, terrible problem.

So all of these things we want to do. Seventy percent of the small businesses—you will hear a lot of talk about how my health care plan is unfair to small business—70 percent of the small businesses in this country do offer health care to their employees. And you know what? Their premiums are 35 to 40 percent higher than people in big business and the Government pay because they are so small. And more of them every month either go bankrupt or have to give up covering their employees. One hundred thousand people a month lose their health insurance for good. Thirty-nine million Americans every month now have no health care. And sometime during every year, 58 million Americans, out of a country of 250 million, 58 million have no health care.

So all of these things are related. And I say to you, it is time for us to listen to the enlightened business leaders like Jack Smith and the enlightened labor leaders like Owen

Bieber who say that the time has come for everybody to take some responsibility for health care. Everyone should have health care security that can never be taken away, so we can control the costs, people pay their fair share, and every family and every child in this country has got health care.

Let me tell you, I'm going to do something today that violates every political poll you ever take. Politicians in both parties have been taking polls for years. And you know what one thing we always find out when we take a poll is that most Americans don't give a riff what they are doing in other countries. They don't want to hear what's going on in other countries; they don't believe it. But I think General Motors does, because you have to compete in a global economy. It matters to you whether Japan has a fair trade policy. It matters to you how much health care goes in every car in Germany or Japan, doesn't it? So you know we have to think about this.

Now, let me tell you something. In America, we spent 14.5 percent of our income on health care. In Canada they spend 10 percent. In Germany and Japan, they spend under 9. There is no evidence that we get better health outcomes. Now, I think all of us would say, if all that money was going to the health care of our families and our children, to have access to our doctors and our health care system, we would all gladly pay it, if that's what it was going to. But it isn't.

We're paying more than anybody else, and most of the difference is going to pay for paperwork, bureaucracy, and rulemaking, because this is the only country in the world with an advanced economy that doesn't provide some health care for everybody and permits itself to spend another dime on the dollar for paperwork, bureaucracy, and rulemaking; because we've got 1,500 separate health insurance companies writing thousands and thousands of different policies, charging old people more than young people, and saying who cannot get health insurance. We ought to stop it.

Let me tell you something. If you work here and you've got a kid with asthma, you've still got a health insurance policy because your company gives you a health insurance policy that doesn't eliminate you for what's called preexisting conditions. But I got a let-

ter from Jeanette Windham of Shreveport, and I had her come to the airport to meet me last night, a woman who works for an insurance company, who had a brain aneurism. Her doctor said she was totally healed, she was just fine, everything was all right, and she works for a company that allegedly has no preexisting conditions, and they still won't give her health insurance. There are people like that all over the country.

What if you had a dream of starting a small business and you were willing to risk giving up working here with all the security that it has? If you had a sick kid and you did that, you couldn't insure your family. There are millions of Americans today—listen to this—there are 81 million Americans, in a country of 250 million, who either have the worker or somebody in the family has once been sick. And as a result of that, they're either paying higher insurance premiums, or they don't have health insurance, or they can never change the job they have. They can't hope to move up because if they move up, they'll lose their health insurance. I'm telling you, we can do better than that. All these other countries we compete with, that put less money in health care in a car than we have to, are still solving those problems. I'm tired of hearing we can't solve those problems. I believe we can, and the time has come to do it.

On Monday I was in Houston, and I went to a party of children with cancer and their parents, little kids fighting for their lives. And I looked out there in that sea of parents, so grateful to be in Houston, which is the largest medical center in America, having access to wonderful care. But a bunch of them were scared to death because they were part of the three out of four of American families that have lifetime limits on their policies. You don't have that, thank goodness. But what if you did? They're sitting there thinking, "My kid's got care today, but what's going to happen when I hit the lifetime limits? Will I go bankrupt? Will something happen to the care?" Other countries don't do that. I think we can do better.

I could give you so many examples of this. And most of the propaganda you're going to hear—I had a doctor in my office Saturday who said to me, he said, "Mr. President,"

he said, "I'm a Republican. I have organized hundreds of doctors in a group to practice medicine. I have made more money than I ever dreamed. And I showed up here to tell you, I want to try to pass health care reform. I hear all these attacks on your program. Why, the people who are saying it don't have any idea what they're talking about, what medicine's really like out there in America. Most workers don't have a choice of doctors anymore."

You know, you've got three choices in your health care plan. My plan gives people three choices. You know, more than half the Americans don't have those choices anymore in their health care plan. I'm telling you, folks, when we go back to work in the Congress, I want you to help us pass this health care reform plan. I want you to urge the Members of Congress to debate all the tough issues. There are some hard questions, and I'll tell you what they are in a minute. There are some hard questions. But we have got to stop making excuses for ourselves and why we can't do it. If we don't do something to control health care costs, it's going to cost every American working family another \$600 a year by the end of this decade. We cannot continue to do what we are doing.

I got a letter from a woman from Louisiana that came to see me yesterday at the airport whose husband came down with lung cancer, and they wouldn't even treat him because he didn't have health insurance. They wouldn't even treat him. And he died in 5 weeks. How would you feel if that was one of your family? How would you feel?

You know, I got a letter from a man from Shreveport who came out to meet me named Don Marks. He's a sales representative. He pays for his own health insurance. His wife got sick. His deductible went from \$250 to \$2,500, \$2,500. He had a \$120 a month drug bill that wasn't covered.

Other countries cover prescription medicine for everybody. And if you have it, you know that a lot of people stay out of the hospital and cost the system less if they can get proper medication, especially true for older people. If our seniors had access to properly prescribed prescription drugs, their hospital bills would be lower. It would cost you less in maintaining the health system. But people

don't want to put up the up-front cost because the way it works now, it doesn't come out of insurance premiums. The Government picks up the tab, or somebody else picks up the tab. It gets bumped along. We can do better than this. We can do better than this.

You know, here I am at this plant, a world-class plant, the world's biggest company. Do you believe for a minute that you would be as productive as you are if you had a lousy health care policy and you had to worry about your kids every day on the job?

**Audience members.** No-o-o!

**The President.** You wouldn't, would you? Yes, it costs some money, but you wouldn't do as good a job as you do.

All over America, we are paying today for the fact that we can't figure out what every other advanced country's figured out how to do: how to provide basic health care security that can never be taken away. And I think it's time to do it.

Our plan does it by building on what works now. One of the things that you'll be hearing about—I get tickled; I read these ads of these folks that are so desperate to keep the system we have now, and they say, "Oh, the President wants to have the Government take over the health care system." It isn't true. What the President wants to do is to keep the system we've got now and give it to everybody: guaranteed private health insurance, private doctors, private providers, a private system. That's what I want, and that's what our bill would require. Our approach guarantees people the right to choose their health care plan. Like I said, you've got three choices in your plan. That's what our plan does. Most American workers don't have three choices anymore, and you know it as well as I do.

So what is this big myth that we're doing? And a lot of the plans competing with us would drive workers down to one choice, the least expensive HMO. That may be a good plan. A lot of these HMO's give great care at low cost, but one of the reasons is they have some competition, they have an incentive to do it. So if you have a choice, you will be more likely to choose that and have good quality health care. Our approach protects the early retirees and finds a way to help companies pay for it to spread the cost of that, to make General Motors, our steel

companies, a lot of our other companies far more competitive.

Our approach reinvests savings from the Medicare program into drug benefits and long-term care benefits for elderly people. It doesn't just take them away the way some others do. And our approach completely outlaws insurance company discrimination. Others say, "Well, we make insurance companies cover everybody." Yes, well, you can get insurance now; we have universal access now if you've got \$10,000 or \$15,000. There's universal access to this truck, but only people with the money can pay it, right? There's universal access to the truck right now, right? So don't fall for all this rhetoric about universal access. Everybody in America has access to this truck right here. But they can't make it.

Our approach says it is wrong to charge old people more than young people for health care just because they're older. Look, the number of young people is going down; the number of old people is going up. People are going to want to work longer. The fastest growing group of Americans are people over 80—[inaudible]. We cannot afford to set up a system where people can't afford to hire older workers. We can't do it. We need it for America's productivity. We have got to have that.

So this is really not about whether we're going to put the Government in charge of health care. The Government is involved in health care. That's what the Medicare program is all about, and most of you would hang me from the highest tree if you thought we were going to repeal it, wouldn't you? I mean, right? It's not about that. The Government is involved in health care. Our plan does not put the Government in control of health care. What it does is to reduce the control of the insurance companies and give more influence to workers and businesses. That's what our plan does. And that's what I think we ought to do.

Now, let's face facts. There are some tough choices. If you have 39 million people without any health insurance and you're going to require people who are working who have no health insurance and their businesses to pay, well, they're going to be paying something they weren't paying. And then if you

have to find a way to cover the people who aren't working but who aren't poor enough to be on Medicaid, we have to find some money for that. So it's not easy.

How do we propose to pay for it? We believe the fairest way is to ask every employer and every employee without health insurance to make some contribution. We think that's fair. We know that small businesses have a tougher time, and there are limits on how much small businesses can pay under our plan. We understand that. That is the most controversial issue. But I don't see how you can possibly cover everyone unless you are going to tax people who are already paying too much for their health care to pay for people who ought to be paying something, or unless you require them to cover themselves.

Now, I think that's the fairest way to do it. And if you don't cover everybody—you heard Mr. Smith say it—if you don't find a way to cover everybody, General Motors will repeatedly be paying too much because the people that don't have health insurance will get health care when it's too late and too expensive. They'll show up at the emergency room, they'll show up at the hospital, and then the cost will be passed on to you. And meanwhile, untold misery will be reaped in the lives of people all across the country. But now, that is a tough issue. And that is the toughest issue.

What should the benefits be? Our bill prescribes the benefits. And they are similar to the ones you have. We emphasize preventive care so people can get annual checkups and things like that. Other approaches say, well, let somebody else decide the benefits. I don't believe the only choice in this country for workers who have no health care should be the least expensive HMO because if that's true, they won't have the competition necessary to maintain high-quality care. So I think we should have choices in the benefit package.

I don't think that we can do it without limiting the payroll contributions that some small businesses have to pay and that others should pay. And I don't believe we can do it without giving small business the power to band together so they can buy insurance on terms as good as General Motors or the Federal Government can buy it. They've got

a legitimate gripe there. And we're trying to address that.

But what I want you to know most of all is, most of what you hear in this debate is about a world that doesn't exist. They say, "Oh, Bill Clinton is going to take choices away." That's not true. We're going to guarantee more choices to most workers. You've got three choices today. Most workers don't, and you know it. So don't let people put that kind of smoke out there. They are saying we are getting the Government into health care. That's not true. We're moving the insurance companies out of the driver's seat and letting the people and the businesses have more influence. And that's what we ought to do.

Look, I know there's a lot of money in this. And there are a lot of good people who work for those companies. But you just have to ask yourself whether we can afford to continue to spend 40 percent more than everybody else and not cover everybody. You're going to hear how, well, inflation in health care costs has gone way down because of the competition. It has; it goes down every time there's a serious threat to reform the health care system. And you let them kill my bill and you watch what happens to medical inflation for the rest of this century. It will go right back up again, just like it has every time in the last 50 years as soon as the interest groups could kill a serious plan at health care reform.

Folks, we have involved hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of doctors and nurses and business people and even folks from the insurance industry in trying to put this plan together. Is it perfect? Of course not. Is it complicated? It has to be; this is 14 percent of our income. How many of you have complicated health care circumstances? This is a complicated issue. But the basic issue is simple: Should every family have health insurance that can never be taken away? Should we keep the great American system of private health care providers and even private insurance? Should we make sure that we do what we can to emphasize primary and preventive care? And should we pay for it by asking people who don't pay anything to pay something for their own health care?

You know how other plans pay for covering people without insurance? They want to tax

the benefits of people with good health care plans and their companies. You're already paying too much for health care. Why should you pay more in taxes to pay for people who haven't paid anything for their own health care? I don't get that, and I don't think it makes sense.

Now, we're going to go back to Washington, and we're going to have a debate on this. We're going to pass the crime bill. But don't forget, crime is also a health care issue. That's what's filling the emergency rooms on the weekends. We're going to work on welfare reform. But don't forget, if you want people to stay off welfare, they've got to be able to have health care for their children. We're going to keep bringing the deficit down. But don't forget, someday we'll be spending money we ought to be spending on education and training on health care because inflation is destroying the Federal budget all in health care costs.

I am telling you, if you want us to do what you do here, if you want us to get together and get things done, if you want partnership not partisanship, if you want progress not petty politics, if you want us oriented on the future and not the past, we have got to deal with the health care crisis in America. And we're going to have to have your help to do it.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10 a.m. at the General Motors plant. In his remarks, he referred to Jack Smith, chief executive officer, and Guy Briggs, vice president, General Motors Co.; and Owen Bieber, president, and Steve Yokich, vice president, United Auto Workers.

### **Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report on Science, Technology, and American Diplomacy**

*February 8, 1994*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

In accordance with Title V of the Foreign Relations Act of Fiscal Year 1979, as amended (Public Law 95-426; 22 U.S.C. 2656c(b)), I am pleased to transmit this annual report on Science, Technology and American Diplomacy for fiscal year 1993.

Redefining U.S. foreign policy and consolidating the dramatic changes of the last few years represents a significant challenge. In the post-Cold War world, we seek to support democracy and peace, promote sustainable economic growth, and address global problems such as rapid rates of population growth, environmentally unsound energy production and consumption, global climate change, loss of biodiversity, and the spread of AIDS. This report clearly indicates that these problems can be addressed effectively through international cooperation in science and technology.

The 1993 Title V report describes the role of international science and technology cooperation in the implementation of our foreign policy, highlighting a series of themes relevant to important issues affecting U.S. interests overseas, including emerging infections; energy, environment, and economics; and natural disaster reduction. In addition, the report examines science and technology cooperation in two geographic regions, Latin America and Asia, on which the Administration has placed a renewed emphasis.

For the first time the Title V report provides a detailed examination of science and technology in our foreign assistance programs, emphasizing our focus on sustainable development. The United States is well positioned to shape the international agenda for promoting sustainable development, and to leverage other donors and multilateral institutions, through cooperative research programs and assistance in the fields of science and technology.

The report also describes the significant potential for post-Cold War defense cooperation. Research of dual-use technologies has the potential to enhance our economic well-being through the development of new manufacturing processes or marketable products that improve the global competitiveness of American businesses. We face the challenge of seeking deeper collaborative opportunities with our allies that strengthen our technical flexibility and collective security, while securing foreign technologies with distinct advantages for domestic application.

I will ensure that our Federal science and technology investments are at the forefront of our national agenda, that our country

maintains its world leadership in science and technology, and that international cooperation in science and technology advances our domestic agenda, while also supporting the objectives of U.S. foreign policy in the post-Cold War era.

Sincerely,

**William J. Clinton**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Claiborne Pell, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; and John Glenn, chairman, Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders  
Transmitting the Report on Progress  
Toward Regional Nonproliferation in  
South Asia**

*February 8, 1994*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

As required under section 620F(c) of the Foreign Operations Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1993 (22 U.S.C. 2376(c)), I am transmitting a report entitled "Progress Toward Regional Nonproliferation in South Asia." This report is unclassified, with a classified annex. It covers developments between April 1, 1993, and October 31, 1993.

A previous report on this subject was transmitted to the Congress on April 28, 1993.

Sincerely,

**William J. Clinton**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives; William H. Natcher, chairman, House Committee on Appropriations; Claiborne Pell, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; and Robert C. Byrd, chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations.

**Statement on Senate Action on  
Education Legislation**

*February 8, 1994*

I would like to congratulate the United States Senate today for moving toward a national framework for lifelong learning by passing both the "Goals 2000 Act" and the "School-to-Work Opportunities Act" on strong bipartisan votes. By approving these bills, the Senate gets an "A" in education.

Since my days as Governor, I have been committed to education reform based on world-class standards and accountability for results. Only if we demand more of our schools and students will we see expanded educational opportunity and nationwide excellence. From the time I helped draft the national education goals on behalf of the National Governors' Association, I looked forward to the day when the Federal Government would finally take the lead on education. Today's Senate action brings us closer to that day.

In today's global economy, what you earn depends on what you learn. The Senate has now opened opportunity for our children during school and as they begin their careers. Goals 2000 will write the national education goals into law and will give States and local schools new tools to meet them. The school-to-work bill will significantly enhance our effort to create an effective apprenticeship system for those who don't go to college.

These steps are vital not only for the education of our children but for the health of our economy as a whole. Our workers will only be able to cope with a world of rapid economic change if they are fully trained and equipped to compete. We will only master new technologies if this training continues throughout a lifetime. World-class education is an investment in a world-leading economy. By its action today, the U.S. Senate has moved us a step closer to setting national standards that will challenge our students, encourage partnerships between parents, schools, and communities, and guarantee

that our young people have the skills they need to compete in the global marketplace.

I look forward to swift agreement between the House and Senate on these critical investments in our Nation's future.

**Statement by the Press Secretary on Access by the House Banking Committee to Iraq-Related Documents**

*February 8, 1994*

President Clinton on February 4, restored the access of the House Banking Committee to classified material and ordered relevant Federal agencies to declassify certain Iraq-related documents requested by the committee.

In a letter to Banking Committee Chairman Henry Gonzalez, the President said, "I am very pleased to tell you that in view of your October 28 letter and your pledge to protect the confidentiality of classified information provided by the administration, we have decided, effective immediately, to restore fully your committee's access to classified information. This action will resolve an unfortunate and long-standing difficulty that has severely interfered in the committee's relations with the executive branch."

Accordingly, the President has directed relevant agencies of the Federal Government to provide the committee access to the classified information it has requested in connection with its investigation of BNL and pre-war policy toward Iraq. Consistent with past practice and policy, access will be subject to arrangements to protect intelligence sources and methods as well as ongoing law enforcement investigations.

The President also ordered relevant Federal agencies to declassify and disclose to the public Iraq-related documents requested by the committee concerning the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL), Cardoen, Matrix-Churchill, Gerald Bull, and U.S. policy toward Iraq immediately preceding the Persian Gulf war. The President also indicated that agencies will review for declassification other specific documents identified by the committee as necessary to carry out the purposes of its investigation. The administration

will declassify these documents to the maximum extent possible, excluding from public release only: (1) material that must remain classified; (2) material whose disclosure would compromise privacy rights; and (3) material that reveals executive branch deliberations.

**Remarks at Prince Georges County Correctional Center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland**

*February 9, 1994*

Thank you, Adele Hayes, for this fine program we came here to celebrate today. And thank you, Mr. Saxton, for having us here.

I was a little uncomfortable about how hard you all laughed at the—[*laughter*—]it occurred to me that this could be one of the great moments in American history for people who hate politicians. You've got the President, the Vice President, half the Cabinet, and a substantial portion of the Congress all in jail at the same time. [*Laughter*]

I want to say a special word of thanks, too, to Joseph Mundo, because I know how hard it was for him to stand up here and give that talk. And I thank you, sir, for doing it.

We have introduced a lot of people here today, and I don't want to lengthen that. But there are two people that I think it's very, very important to recognize as I get into what our administration's approach to the drug issue will be, because it is clear to me and has been for some time from personal experience that we have to have, in order to succeed here, an enormous effort across this country that goes way beyond the Federal Government and way beyond law enforcement, that involves citizens supporting our common effort and involves some pretty sweeping cultural changes, and there are two Americans who have done as much to try to fight the drug problem in that way as any people who live in our country. I'd like to ask them to stand and be recognized: the former Secretary of what was then the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the director of the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, Joe Califano, thank you, Joe; and one of our country's most distinguished leaders and the

chairman of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, Mr. Jim Burke, is also here.

Ladies and gentlemen, we came here for a real purpose, to announce our antidrug strategy. I do believe it is the most comprehensive one ever, but we wanted to come here to illustrate that this is an issue which must be dealt with person by person, one at a time—it's a very human problem—and that it requires those of us who are trying to deal with it to take certain steps and those who have already suffered from alcohol or drug abuse to take even stronger steps.

I believe very much in what we are doing today from two angles. One is, the first job I ever had the courtesy of the voters was the job of attorney general; I started out in a law enforcement job. Second is that I have had the questionable privilege of living in a family that has dealt with both alcoholism and drug abuse. I know treatment works. I also know that it is important to be tough as well as caring.

What we are trying to do today is to start our Government on a course that offers the promise of real results to the American people. When I asked Lee Brown to come and be head of the Office of Drug Policy, I told him that for the first time ever I would make the Director a member of my Cabinet, that I recognized that it was folly to believe that 100 or 125 or, for that matter, 1,000 people working in a Federal office in Washington could change the habits and the policies of the American people, that we had to enlist the entire Government.

I daresay this is probably the first time that we've ever had seven Cabinet members on a stage at the same time all manifesting their commitment to dealing with this issue. And there are many others. We'll have a total of 10 just in the next 2 days who will be announcing their part of this battle to implement this strategy. We also have here the Director of our AIDS effort, the head of the Internal Revenue Service, the head of the Secret Service. We have an enormous number of Federal officials here who are not on this stage who have a big part of this endeavor. I say this to illustrate the fact that we have really tried to be very realistic, very hardheaded to try to take some time to think about what it is we can do and what it is

the rest of America has to do to reinvigorate this Nation's fight against the surge of drugs.

We know we have to build on the works of parents and community leaders who did so much to bring down casual drug use in the 1980's. We know we have to add to the staffs of law enforcement authorities who have proved there are things you can do that work. We know that where energies have been deployed effectively, whether it was cracking down on pushers, cracking down on drug networks, or building up people like this man who spoke so eloquently today, that they can make progress.

We also know some pretty tough facts. We know that hardcore drug abuse in America has continued unabated. We know that its persistence represents the threat to the stability of our society and the economic future of our country. We know that no nation can fight crime and drugs without dealing honestly and forthrightly with the problem of drug addiction. As I said in my State of the Union Address, we need an approach to crime and drugs that is both tough and smart. We very often have one without the other, and we pay the price for that, as well.

The crime bill and this strategy we announced today puts more into law enforcement than we've ever put before. It does more to keep drugs off the street. It does more than ever before to help hard-core drug users into treatment programs where they belong. It is a new national attack on drug addiction.

The craving for drugs is an enormous factor in a lot of our problems: the rise of violence, the spread of AIDS, the spiraling costs of health care. Every time I have one of my town meetings on health care, I tell the American people we have to do some things to provide health care to all Americans and bring down the cost, but we have to be honest. No health care proposal can solve all the problems that lead American health care to be more expensive than any other country. And one big one health care cannot solve is the fact that we pay more for violence because we've got our emergency rooms full of people who have been cut up and shot. We pay more to deal with AIDS. And both those things are the direct result, in large measure, of our very high rate of drug abuse.

You know it, and I know it. So if we want to deal with this problem, we have to face it.

You also heard Mr. Mundo say in such powerful terms that he lost everything. We know that drug abuse is a big factor in the breakdown of families, in the increase in joblessness, in the increase in homelessness. Every day when I go out for my run at the White House, I see what seems like an ever-increasing number of people who are living homeless within three or four blocks of the White House. And you know every one of them has a personal life story, many of them, a story that involves drugs.

We know if you go to any children's hospital in any sizeable city today and you go to the ward where the little babies are, you'll see baby after baby after baby born with an addiction to drugs. We know that now many of our streets are too dangerous to walk and our schools even dangerous to attend. I met a young man about a year ago from Chicago, who was a big, strapping, handsome young fellow who wanted to really make something of his life. And he said that he knew he had to get an education to do it, but he was scared to walk from home to school to get the ticket out of his neighborhood. I've had that scene replayed many times just in the last year with other people.

If we want to, therefore, reduce crime and cut health care costs and reform our welfare system, if we want to rebuild our families and our communities, all these things require a serious effort to curb the use of drugs. Part of it is enforcement. The crime bill now before the Congress is part of that strategy. It would put another 100,000 police officers on the street. It would provide boot camps for juvenile offenders. It would provide dramatic increases in support for drug courts, very successful drug courts, like the ones in Florida, New York, California, and the District, where court-ordered rehabilitation programs have cleaned people up and freed prison cells for truly violent criminals. The Miami drug court has treated 4,500 first offenders since 1987, with a rearrest rate of only 11 percent.

We know these kinds of initiatives will support the efforts of community grassroots efforts, like the one sponsored by Monsignor East and his parishioners in Washington who

started an orange-hat brigade, where community leaders patrol streets in bright orange hats, sending a message that drugs and drug trade won't be tolerated. There are thousands of groups like this all across America who work with police to shut down crack houses and take the neighborhoods back.

Last Friday, the Vice President and the Cabinet outlined our new plan to help residents of public housing rid themselves of crime and drugs. We can't do that unless people at the grassroots participate and take the lead. But we have to also do our part. The most effective things mobilize all the resources of a community. And that's what our strategy seeks to support.

We also seek to support a new, more drug-free America through prevention. We need to reach people before they get started through prevention and early intervention, especially among our young people before they enter middle school, much less high school or college. The latest statistics show an increase in drug use among the young. Our children need a constant drum beat reminder that drugs are not safe; drugs are not good; drugs are illegal; there will be consequences for using them.

I know a lot of these programs work. I saw them work in the schools where my child attended when she was very, very young. I saw the impact that a law enforcement officer in a uniform, talking to children who had never before had a positive human personal relationship with an authority figure, could have in these schools. I know we can do it. And our proposal provides a substantial increase in funds to support those kinds of activities.

We also know we have to do more in the workplace. Drug-free programs that work can be every bit as important and effective as drug-free programs at school. Our strategy supports programs like these and calls on everyone in a position of influence to do their part.

Finally, we have to have some more effort at treatment. This strategy recognizes that drug addiction is a disease, that it can and should be treated, and that treatment can work, as Adele said. We're letting hardcore drug users know that if you're an addict caught in the cycle of drug abuses, we can

help you to get the help you need. Our goal is to get 140,000 more hardcore users into treatment in the next year, 140,000 more, targeting chronic hardcore users, including adults and juveniles under the supervision of criminal authorities, along with pregnant women and children.

Every dollar we spend on treatment will save seven dollars America is losing today. It will make up for lost productivity. It will save money we are using now to fight the problem instead of to prevent it. This target is a significant start that allows us to expand programs as the effectiveness of service and research findings grow.

One of the most important parts from your perspective of our health care proposal is that it would include drug treatment as part of health care coverage. This is a very important thing. We have to recognize that until we have the appropriate level of treatment on demand without delay, we will continue to pay for a problem that we can reduce. You know treatment works. It's time for the Congress to recognize it in the form of the budgets we have presented and for America to aggressively embrace it in the way you have at this institution.

We also recognize we need to try to do something to control the supply. Strategy calls for what we strongly believe is an improvement of our international drug control program, shifting away from a policy that was focused largely on interdiction—that is stopping the drugs when they were on the way to the United States—to a three-pronged approach: working with countries in which drugs are grown that have the political will to go after the kingpins in those countries; destroying the cartels that grow rich from supplying our people with drugs; and continuing our interdiction effort, hopefully with better technology and smarter efforts that allow us to interdict even more drugs. That is very important. We should not stop it, but we must supplement those efforts so that we can be more successful.

Dr. Brown has said, yes, we want to continue our presence at the border to interdict drugs, but we don't want to wait for people at the border anymore. He says he's tired of swatting hornets, he'd rather go after the hornet's nest. And that's a pretty good line.

I might say our friends and neighbors beyond our borders should welcome this. We have seen in nation after nation how international drug trafficking is a threat to democratic institutions. It fuels human rights abuses and terrorism against the innocent. It undermines legitimate, broadbased economic development. It contributes to regional instability. Many of the countries that deal with this problem will never become what they want to be until they're able to be rid of it. We ought to help them, for ourselves and for their own people as well.

This is an important part of our foreign policy toward major source countries and major transit countries. We have to make it an important part of our commitment to promoting democracy, economic reform, and human rights. None of that's going to happen in countries dominated by people who dictate events because of the profits of the drug trade.

Finally, let me end where I began. From my own personal experience, in my family as well as my work in law enforcement as an attorney general and a Governor, I believe still that once it occurs, drug addiction has to be overcome one person at a time. In the past year as President, I've spoken about drugs on 85 separate occasions. And I can keep talking about this until I, once again, lose my voice, but you and I know that we're not going to make a dent in this problem except by having it happen, one person at a time. If this man had not chosen to take some responsibility for his own life, then this fine program would still be just another expenditure of taxpayer money.

The newly inaugurated Mayor of Detroit, Dennis Archer, offered a challenge to his city when he was sworn into office. I'd like to quote it for you now because it equals what I think we're facing. He said, and I quote, "To the people of Detroit, stand with me when I tell the dope man to get off our streets, to leave our children alone, to get out of our way. We're taking back our streets, and we're taking back our children."

Well, Mayor Archer can't do it alone. Monsignor East can't do it alone. But this administration and the entire weight of State and local government can't do it alone either. The people of this country have got to take

responsibility for themselves, their children, and their neighbors. If we work with them, if we say we know hardcore drug users can't do it alone, the help they need is treatment, the help they need is support, then I think we can make a real profound difference.

I want every American, every Member of Congress, every State official, everybody who works for a mayor or a city government to join me in putting this strategy to work. This is a national strategy, not a Federal strategy. I don't want it to become partisan in any way, shape, or form. This should unite us in America: people in the private sector, people in Government, people at the local level, people at the national level, Republicans and Democrats, people who are inside this institution, and people who are beyond its walls. We have a common interest in saving our country. And all of us have a personal responsibility to pursue. This drug strategy we announce today is our attempt to be your partner and pursue our personal responsibility. And together, together we can do it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:22 p.m. in the gymnasium. In his remarks, he referred to Adele Hayes, human services coordinator, Awakening; Sam Saxton, director, Prince Georges County Correctional Center; Joseph Del Mundo, former drug treatment client; and Monsignor Raymond G. East, pastor, St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church, Washington, DC. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Teleconference With Mayors and an Exchange With Reporters**

*February 9, 1994*

**The President.** Hello. Mayor Daley, Mayor White, Mayor Rice, Mayor Minor, welcome to the telephone conversation. I'm here with the Attorney General and with our Director of Drug Policy, Lee Brown. And we're glad to visit with you.

Today I'm happy to announce that the four cities you represent and 30 others and towns across our country will receive the second round of grants to put more police on the street and to expand community policing.

The Justice Department has now received applications from 3,000 communities across

the country and awarded grants in more than 100 cities and towns. It's obvious that every community in our country is coming to the same conclusion, that more police officers on the street, properly trained and properly placed, will reduce the crime rate. And these grants today are another downpayment on our pledge to put 100,000 new officers on the streets.

I've asked Congress, as I think all of you know, to send me a comprehensive crime bill as soon as possible that does that, that puts 100,000 police officers on the street, bans assault weapons, expands boot camps, prisons, and drug courts, and says to violent offenders, "Three strikes and you're out."

I've also provided funding for that crime bill in this budget through the 5-year, \$22 billion violent crime reduction trust fund that takes the money we're going to save from reducing the Federal bureaucracy by 250,000 over 5 years and pays for the police officers.

Earlier today, Lee Brown and I announced our new drug control strategy, which expands drug treatment programs as well as provides more police officers on the street. These two items in our budget got bigger increases than almost anything else. Community policing went up \$1.7 billion. The drug budget went up \$1 billion, even though we were cutting half the Government Departments and 60 percent of the line items in the budget.

So I am very encouraged that at least we're beginning to make our contribution to this effort. I want to thank all of you for what you're doing to fight crime in your communities. I want to give you a chance to be heard today. And as I said, Lee Brown and Janet Reno and I are here, we want to support you, and we want to do everything we can to succeed.

Mayor Daley.

*[At this point, Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago, IL, and Mayor Michael White of Cleveland, OH, made statements of support for community policing, and Mayor White concluded with a statement of support for the President's crime bill.]*

**The President.** Thank you very much. We need your support for the crime bill. We need you up here going door to door. And

we also need your support for the drug budget because the two things go together.

[Mayor Norman Rice of Seattle, WA; Mayor Tom Minor of San Bernardino, CA; Attorney General Janet Reno; and Director of National Drug Control Policy Lee Brown made brief remarks.]

**The President.** One thing I want to say as I sign off is that to all of those hundreds of communities who applied for these grants who haven't been given funds, that's why we need to pass the crime bill. If we do that, then we'll be able to help cities all over America. We'll be able to meet the demand, and we'll be able to lower the crime rate. And I appreciate the support that all of you have given to that. And thank you for your example. We'll just keep working together.

Thank you, and goodbye.

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, have you had any update on the situation in Bosnia?

**Q.** Mr. President, are the allies on board on a new Bosnia strategy?

**The President.** Well, we've made a lot of progress, but I don't have a final word from Brussels yet. They're meeting and they're talking. So far we've got a good report back, but they haven't finalized their discussions. I expect, oh, in a couple of hours, later this afternoon I'll have more to say about it.

**Q.** Does the Serbian agreement to pull back their guns from the hills of Sarajevo meet the conditions that you are hoping to lay out at the end of this meeting?

**The President.** I can't say. I want to wait until I get the final report from Brussels. I should be able to give you a clearer answer on that. It's a good thing that they have—a good beginning, but it shows—again, every time NATO shows a little resolve there, we get some results.

**Q.** What's different about the proposals that you and the French have put forward than with previous threats? There have been lots of threats to launch air strikes.

**The President.** Well, let's wait and see what action is taken. Again, I'll try to give you some good comments before your deadlines this evening, but I think I should wait until the meeting is concluded.

**Q.** Can you tell us, are you backing off in your support for the Bosnian Moslems at all?

**The President.** Oh, no. That's not what this is about at all.

### **Health Care Reform**

**Q.** Now that you've had a chance to reflect a little bit on what the CBO said about your health care numbers, do you have any other comments?

**The President.** No, I feel even better about it. I mean, the CBO said that we could have guaranteed private health insurance for all Americans, that it would reduce the Government deficit and reduce Government spending over the long run, that it wouldn't cost jobs for the American economy. I mean, I think the big-picture message is absolutely right.

I think in terms of the differences, I'm studying now the differences in their calculations and ours in the next 5 or 6 years, and basically, they agree with us about how much it will cost. They think there will be more savings on the business side and fewer savings for the taxpayers in the short run. That's really the only difference as nearly as I can see.

But those are all things that we can work out. Those are relatively minor budgetary considerations and other things that we can work through to get our numbers in harmony with theirs. So I'm not at all concerned.

And I don't have anything else to say to what I said yesterday. I just think that to say that a private insurance payment from one private party to another should be on the Government budget—I just don't agree with that. I mean, otherwise every State in the country would have to put workers' compensation payments on their budget, and every State would have to put their mandatory drivers liability insurance on their budget. I just don't agree with—I mean, I understand the argument, but again, I think that's something we can fix with the drafting of the bill. So I'm not concerned about it.

**Q.** You're not worried about the short-term—impact?

**The President.** Oh, but when I had a chance to study it further, I felt even better about their analysis because if you look at

their analysis, they basically agree with us about how much the program will cost and how it will impact. They think in the short run more savings will flow to private sector—to businesses and purchases, direct purchases of health care—and less savings to the Government. And over a 5-year period, Senator Moynihan at the beginning of the day said the Government will spend \$7.5 trillion or something in the next 5 years. This \$70 billion, it's a big number, but spread out over 5 years we can easily work through it. I think we can reconcile that. I'm not worried about it.

**President Boris Yeltsin of Russia**

**Q.** Have you spoken to President Yeltsin on the Bosnia situation, Mr. President?

**The President.** Not yet. We're trying to set up telephone calls sometime today, and I think we'll talk today.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:54 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

**Remarks to the World Jewish Congress**

*February 9, 1994*

**The President.** Thank you very much. Edgar Bronfman and Mr. Vice President and ladies and gentlemen, I'm delighted to be here with you today. It's a great honor for us to have you here at the White House. For 55 years, you have struggled in behalf of the Jewish people but also in behalf of all humanity. I thank you for that, and I thank you for your presence.

I'd also like to say a special word of appreciation for the example, for the vision, and the leadership of Edgar Bronfman. I know you know this, but I would also like to point out in this crowd that I am especially proud of the partnership I have enjoyed with the Vice President who has spoken out against bigotry and anti-Semitism not only in the United States but all over the world in the last year.

For all the good things that have happened in the last 10 years that the Vice President mentioned, we know a lot of very painful

things have occurred also. We are everywhere reminded of the fragility of civilized life, of how easily people can fall back into the kinds of hatreds that lead to the blind actions that dehumanize all of us. That was brought home to me on my trip to Europe last month in many ways, perhaps most poignantly when I visited the Jewish cemetery in Prague.

I wish that bigotry were not all around us. I wish people still did not prefer killing and hating each other based on religious and ethnic differences anywhere, but it is a fact. It is also a fact that the insecurity and intolerance that we see tends to feed on itself so that after a while we look at places of conflict in the world and we wonder why people are still killing each other over what may seem to be a very small piece of ground or a principle not worth the life of a single child. I think it is clear it is because of the accumulated impact of intolerance and hatred. Somehow all of us have to find a way in this world after the cold war, when we are not burdened by but also not as disciplined by conflicting ideologies, to get people to realize that they must move beyond these ancient, indeed antiquated, intolerances.

The Vice President told me a fascinating story today. We rode out to a place to announce the new drug policy of the administration, and we were talking about a lot of scientific subjects, which means that he mostly talked and I mostly listened, since he knows so much more about it than I do. But we started talking about the disappearance of Neanderthals and the various theories that exist about how Neanderthals disappeared and Homo sapiens emerged. And there are some who believe that, according to the Vice President, that the Neanderthals disappeared in what may be history's first instance of genocide.

There is something about human nature which causes us to hold fast to people we think are like us and sometimes be afraid of and want to be separate from people who are not. If it means a religious community living together in harmony with one another and respect for our neighbors, then it is a very positive and good and wholesome thing. If it gives cultures the chance to keep their families together and raise their children

with strong values and with the opportunity to be what God meant for them to be, then it is a good and strong thing. But how easily these differences spill over into hatreds that lead to bloodshed, and how difficult it is to put the world back together again once these things begin.

Since I have been President, we have tried to do what we could, consistent with our first obligation to rebuild the fabric of life in this country and the sense of harmony and community and respect for diversity in this country, to also deal with those problems around the world.

We have worked very hard to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, one that enhances Israel's security and offers the acceptance of normal life which has been too long denied to the citizens of that troubled region.

The first pillar of that approach is strengthening the relationship between the United States and Israel. When I first met Prime Minister Rabin last year, almost a year ago this week, he said that he would be willing to take risks for peace, and certainly he has been. Sometimes the opposition that he faces at home reminds me of the opposition I face from time to time. But clearly, he has been willing to take risks for peace. I told him if he should be willing to take those risks, then it was my responsibility as the President of the United States to minimize those risks. And I have tried to do that. The Prime Minister is fulfilling his commitment, and we are keeping ours. Our commitment to maintaining and enhancing the security of Israel is ironclad. And it is the precondition of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The second pillar of our approach is to ensure the successful implementation of the Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles. Both sides now have to begin to implement the agreement on the ground, and we are working hard to support that without interfering with it. Implementing the agreement on the ground is the only way to show the Israelis the agreement can enhance their security while providing a more normal life of more self-government for their Palestinian neighbors.

The third pillar of our approach is to get other negotiations back on track. The biggest

challenge this year is to help Israel and Syria make peace. My meeting in Geneva with President Asad was designed to help to achieve that goal. As he said after the meeting, Syria has made a strategic decision for peace and wants now, for the first time, normal, peaceful relations with Israel.

We have welcomed these statements, for they break new ground. We've also welcomed the Syrian decision to grant exit permits to all Syrian Jews who wish to leave. I understand the process of issuing visas is now virtually completed. But more will be required. Syria must demonstrate that it wants a full and meaningful peace to achieve the confidence of the people of Israel to make such a peace possible.

Finally, to achieve our goal of a comprehensive settlement, we are insisting that the Arab boycott of Israel end now. There must be a commitment to a new era of peace and prosperity which sees in the Middle East partnership with Israel. Israel must be the partner of these nations, no longer a pariah. And we are making progress on that.

Let me, if I might, speak briefly about the tragedy in Bosnia. I have been meeting with my national security team, and as I am sure most of you know, we have had urgent consultations which continue at this moment with our NATO allies in the wake of the atrocities last Saturday in Sarajevo.

Before I go forward, let me, as the Vice President did, note the presence of the president of the Jewish community of Sarajevo here, Mr. Ivan Ceresnjes, with whom I had a brief moment of conversation. We're glad to have you here, sir.

I expect that today, momentarily, NATO will agree on a firm response to the shelling of Sarajevo by the Serbs. But I also think that today we will begin to reinvigorate the negotiations to try to help to bring a permanent end to the bloodshed and aggression. Somehow the people of Bosnia must decide that it is not worth the continuation of killing each other. We are quite close, if you listen to what the parties say they want, to an agreement that all might be able to live with. Surely, surely in the wake of the horror last weekend, the parties will be able to, with a little support from the rest of us, reach an agreement that all can live with and honor.

Finally, let me say that here at home we need to retain our religious faith and our religious freedom as a source of our common community and strength and not as a source of division. The spiritual richness of our society was visible to many Americans and perhaps some of you in this room who attended a ceremony at the White House in November in which I signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. It was a very important bill for Americans because it restored what the law was in our country before a decision of the Supreme Court. The law now says that in our country, the presumption is that people of any religious faith should be able to practice their faith and that the law should bend over backwards to let them do it, unless there is some serious and substantial damage to the public interest in so doing.

We had Jewish leaders here, the U.S. Catholic Conference, the National Association of Evangelicals, the National Islamic Prison Foundation. You wouldn't have believed all these people would stand together, arm in arm, to support a law. I hope that those groups in our country will not only support that law but will support its spirit. That is, we can't bend over backwards to respect each other's religious practices unless we actually do it in fact as well as in law. And we cannot use this power of political argument to beat down other people's religious convictions just because on occasion they conflict with our own. We are trying to do that in this country. I hope you will wish us well.

One of our counties, just one of our counties, Los Angeles County, has people from 150 different racial and ethnic groups. We believe this diversity can make America the greatest country in the world into the 21st century. But we have to find a way to take the guns out of the hands of our children, to restore peace and security to our streets and to our schools, to meet the basic needs of our people so that they will be able to live with security and in comfort, not physical comfort but emotional comfort, the comfort that comes from believing you live in a just society where you are respected not only for your shared values but for the differences you have embraced.

That is the world we are working for. It may be that we will never achieve it, but it

is certain that if we work together we will get much closer to our common goal.

Thank you very much.

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, will there be air strikes against the Serbs?

**The President.** Just a moment, I have an announcement.

I just was informed—I was hoping to announce this before we talked—that as I was speaking, in Cairo Foreign Minister Peres and Yasser Arafat announced an agreement on self-rule and on the terms of withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho. So I think another big milestone has been achieved today.

Thank you.

And from the questions in the back on Bosnia, we simply have not completed the NATO meeting yet. I thought we would have by now, but as soon as we have I will be glad to comment on that also. But the meeting is not over.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:07 p.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Edgar Bronfman, president, World Jewish Congress.

### **Remarks Announcing the NATO Decision on Air Strikes in Bosnia and an Exchange With Reporters**

*February 9, 1994*

**The President.** Good evening. Over the past year, our administration has been working to do what we could to help to end the tragic conflict in Bosnia and to ease the suffering it has caused. Like people everywhere, I was outraged by the brutal killing of innocent civilians in the Sarajevo market last Saturday. The events of the past year and the events of the past few days reinforce the belief that I have that more must be done to stop the shelling of Sarajevo and the murder of innocents.

Therefore, the United States, working with our allies, has developed a series of proposals to address the situation in Sarajevo and to reinvigorate the negotiations to bring the bloodshed and the aggression in Bosnia to an end. As a result, just now in Brussels

NATO has decided that if any Bosnian Serb heavy weapons are found within 20 kilometers of Sarajevo within 10 days—or after 10 days—or if there is any further shelling of Sarajevo, NATO commanders stand ready to conduct air strikes against Serb artillery positions. NATO would carry out such strikes in accord with procedures it agreed on last August.

There are reports that as a result of NATO's impending action, Bosnian Serbs have already agreed to withdraw their heavy guns. If these reports are true, I welcome them. We hope that the Bosnian Serb actions will make air strikes unnecessary. But no one should doubt NATO's resolve. NATO is now set to act. Anyone, anyone shelling Sarajevo must recognize this fact and be prepared to deal with the consequences.

Our Nation has clear interests at stake in this conflict. We have an interest in helping to prevent a broader conflict in Europe that is most compelling. We have an interest in showing that NATO, history's greatest military alliance, remains a credible force for peace in post-cold-war Europe. We have an interest in stemming the destabilizing flows of refugees that this horrible conflict is creating. And we clearly have a humanitarian interest in helping to prevent the strangulation of Sarajevo and the continuing slaughter of innocents in Bosnia. These interests do not justify unilateral American intervention in the crisis, but they do justify the involvement of America and the exercise of our leadership.

I have been meeting over the last hour with leaders of both parties in Congress, and I stressed to them that our contribution to resolving the Bosnian conflict will be proportionate to our interests, no more and no less. We have also insisted that NATO not commit itself to any objectives it cannot achieve. Important as these NATO actions are, we must understand that in the end this conflict must be settled at the negotiating table by the parties themselves. In short, they must want to stop killing each other and to settle, to resume their peaceful life before that will occur.

I have directed the Secretary of State to have the United States play a more active role in the negotiations. These efforts are

well underway. We hope that our efforts and the efforts of other NATO countries and the efforts of perhaps other nations as well can help to reinvigorate the process of peace and bring these parties to an agreement.

The ongoing tragedy in Sarajevo and Bosnia should catalyze all of our efforts to seek negotiated solutions. The actions that I have proposed and that NATO has approved today demonstrate that our Nation and the international community cannot and will not stand idly by in the face of a conflict that affects our interests, offends our consciences, and disrupts the peace.

### **Russia**

**Q.** Mr. President, did you talk to President Yeltsin today about this, and what is Russia's reaction to this ultimatum?

**The President.** I did not talk to him today, although I tried to for a couple of hours and there were technical problems that we couldn't get through. So I expect to talk to him—well, you know it's several hours ahead of us now, so I expect to talk to him either late tonight before I go to bed or maybe even sometime in the middle of the night. I am trying to get in touch with him, and he knows that I will take the call whenever we can put it together.

I think when President Yeltsin understands that the action taken by NATO today applies to anyone who violates the safe zone around Sarajevo, and not only to Serbs, and understands that the United States is going to put new energy into its own efforts to bring about a negotiated settlement and that we would welcome the Russians' involvement in bringing about a negotiated settlement, that he will, if not agree with our action, at least understand it more.

### **Air Strikes**

**Q.** Mr. President, now that this warning has been given, what's your understanding of exactly what it takes to trigger an air strike?

**The President.** Well, keep in mind now, I have not seen the language; I was just informed that the agreement was finally reached. But if the position presented to NATO this morning is, in fact, what emerges—and I believe it was—then you have the same situation here that we had last

August when the first NATO out-of-area action was proposed, which is that the first air strike must be approved by the Secretary-General.

He has asked us, by the way, to do this, so that we now have no reason to believe that he would ask NATO to take a meaningless action. In fact, we think he's clearly in sync with us on this. After which all subsequent air strikes would be the result of coordinated decisions by the commander of the United Nations troops on the ground there and the NATO commander in that area, Admiral Boorda, the American admiral.

**Q.** Given the difficulty of the terrain, can you give us some sense of what you think the risk is for the pilots involved, for the other personnel involved; what the level of American involvement will be in this NATO action?

**The President.** Well, the level of American involvement in this NATO action, I again will say, there is not expectation—in fact, we have made it quite clear that this will not involve American ground forces. From the beginning of the administration, we have said that the American forces could only be used, if at all, in the implementation of an agreement that had been freely reached as a part of a broader united force in which, since the problem is in Europe, the American forces would be in the minority. So there will be no American ground troops involved in this action.

I can only say to you what General Shalikashvili has said to me and to the leaders of Congress, which is, there is no such thing as a risk-free air operation. I don't want to mislead the American people on that. We have, regrettably, fine young American pilots who die every year in training operations. So there is no such thing as a risk-free operation. However, we believe that the air defenses are sufficiently rudimentary that the risks are minimal. That is the conclusion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**Q.** Don't they have to fly very low, given this terrain?

**The President.** Well, I don't want to reveal what we would do and how we would do it. All I can tell you is that the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has told me he considers the risks to be small. But you can

never tell anybody, when you get in a high-speed airplane with weapons and when people can at least shoot rockets on shoulder weapons against you, that there is absolutely no risk. I can't say that to the American people. But the risks are small.

### **Peace Process**

**Q.** Mr. President, can you tell us more about the diplomatic track? Do you have any new initiatives going into the Geneva meetings tomorrow? There have also been reports that you are going to pressure the Bosnian Moslems to back off some of their demands in order to make peace easier.

**The President.** No—well, that's not exactly true. First of all, I don't think we or anybody else can impose a peace. What the United States has agreed to do as a result of the new energy brought to this whole matter by our European allies is to talk again to the Bosnian Moslems—as you know, I have been very sympathetic with their position and have made no secret of it—to ascertain what their legitimate bedrock requirements are and to share with them as clearly and honestly as we can what we think both the political and the military situation is and then, using that as a basis, to go back to do what we can to facilitate an end to this conflict and an agreement. I think that we have a lot of interests in doing the same thing by the Germans, by the French, by the British, really new interest in making a committed effort to persuade these parties that the time has come to quit killing each other. But ultimately, they will have to decide that.

I think we all believe, those of us who have been following this closely, that there is an awful lot of fighting and an awful lot of dying going on now over relatively small patches of land and issues like a path to the sea for the Moslems and where would—that ought to be able to be resolved without a huge amount of further bloodshed. And we hope that they too have been sufficiently affected by the carnage involving innocent civilians in the last few days that they will see that as well.

And as I said to you, I wish that I could report to you on my conversation with President Yeltsin. There were just problems that it didn't work out because of where he was

and where I was. But I think I will talk to him soon, and I hope that he will also want to weigh in on the peace process. He has expressed a willingness to do that before and has encouraged me in that regard before, so I'm hopeful.

### **NATO Decision**

**Q.** [*Inaudible*]*—*conversations with some of the other leaders who were reluctant to do this? Did you convince them to come along, or did you say, "This is what we're going to do"?

**The President.** I wouldn't say they were reluctant. Let me say again, look at the position of the Canadians with their soldiers in Srebrenica surrounded by Serbs. They're in a different position. The French, the British, the Spaniards, the Dutch—there are Europeans who have soldiers on the ground in relatively small numbers for the purpose of carrying out the United Nations missions. They are all legitimately concerned with the prospect of retaliation against their armed forces. And one of the things that we have really given a lot of thought to is what we can do to provide maximum protection to those people. They have bravely carried on in very difficult circumstances, as you know, for some time. And so we have talked about that.

I think it's a real tribute to those who have forces there that they were so determined finally to try to stop the deterioration of conditions. I think they began to be worried that their forces would be perhaps at more risk if nothing was done. So I am grateful to them for their agreement for this position. And we're going to do the very best we can to make it work.

Thank you.

**NOTE:** The President spoke at 6:05 p.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Adm. J.M. Boorda, USN, commander in chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Appointment of Director of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting at the United States Information Agency**

*February 9, 1994*

The President today announced the appointment of Richard M. Lobo to be Director of the U.S. Information Agency's Office of Cuba Broadcasting, which manages Radio and TV Marti. The two services provide a mix of Spanish-language news, feature, cultural, and entertainment programming to the people of Cuba.

"Richard Lobo's 35 years of experience in journalism, broadcast management, and community affairs make him very well suited for this job," said the President. "Our administration honors the memory of José Martí, whose birthday we marked last week, and will continue our efforts in support of freedom and democracy for the Cuban people. Radio and TV Marti are an integral part of those efforts."

**NOTE:** A biography of the appointee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Nomination for Four Federal Judges**

*February 9, 1994*

The President today nominated four individuals to serve on the Federal bench. To the U.S. Court of Appeals, he nominated Guido Calabresi for the Second Circuit and Robert H. Henry for the Tenth Circuit. The President also named Frank M. Hull to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia and W. Louis Sands to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia.

"I am proud to nominate these distinguished individuals to serve in our Federal judiciary," the President said today. "Their commitment to public service and equal justice for all Americans is outstanding."

**NOTE:** Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Remarks to Ukrainian-Americans**  
*February 10, 1994*

First of all, I think, Julian, you and Orest met with the Vice President in Milwaukee when I was unable to come, and I'm sorry I missed the meeting, but I'm glad to have all of you here now.

I think the relationships between the United States and Ukraine are at their strongest point since 1991. I think all of you know that I had a very good meeting with President Kravchuk and other leaders of Ukraine when I was in Europe. We had a fine meeting and a good dinner at Boryspil Airport, didn't we, Tony? And I'm looking forward to President Kravchuk's trip here on March the 4th.

We're moving as quickly as we can to establish good relationships. The first and most important step was taken with the trilateral nuclear agreement, which was approved by the Rada just a few days ago. And I'm very pleased about that. It was very interesting because Mr. Kravchuk was confident it would be approved and yet all the press reports were that it probably wouldn't be. And he turned out to be right, so I'm very encouraged by that.

We have already approved and provided \$175 million in assistance to facilitate the dismantling of the nuclear weapons, and we expect to almost double that amount when President Kravchuk is here. We're also going to work very closely to make sure that Ukraine receives fair compensation for the value of the nuclear materials, the highly enriched uranium, that are in the warheads. And we have a good strategy for that, and I'm confident that that will occur.

Once Ukraine accedes to the nonproliferation treaty, which is the next big parliamentary fight, we will extend further security assurances to Ukraine, including our commitment to the sovereignty of the nation and its independence within its existing borders. And we have been very clear about that, and we hope that that will encourage the Rada and others in Ukraine to accede to the NPT.

We've also had some progress on our economic relations. Of course, the biggest problem, obviously, is the high rate of inflation and the problems with industrial productiv-

ity. But President Kravchuk has, I think, launched the beginnings, at least, of an economic reform program. And we had decided to double our bilateral economic assistance to Ukraine this year to more than \$300 million, and we hope that will be helpful to them.

We also have encouraged the World Bank and the IMF to take a different look at Ukraine, and there will be delegations in Kiev, I think this week, sometime in the next few days. There will be delegations from the IMF and the World Bank there. And finally, we have agreed to an ambitious effort to increase American private investment with Ukraine. So I think we are moving forward on the economic issue.

I hope that all of you will play a big role in the development of our relations. I hope you will stay in close touch with the White House. I hope you will give us your best ideas about what can be done. But I have to say that I was immensely pleased that I was able to stop in Ukraine when I was in Europe, and I was pleased with the continuing development of the relationship. I know that the nation has many problems, but it's a difficult time for all the former Communist economies. And on balance, I would say we are doing rather well in our relationships with them, and I feel that they're strong, they're growing stronger. And I think the Kravchuk visit here will be a very positive thing.

One of the things that I'm quite sensitive to that I would maybe solicit your advice about is to make sure that when he comes here and when we meet that it's actually a positive for him at home. Because when all these countries are going through difficult changes—not just Ukraine but others—their relationships with the United States are almost a mixed blessing, I think, with the people back home, because everybody wants us to help and be supportive but not to dictate unduly to them what the terms of their own development and future should be. So it's a little bit of a delicate thing, but we're trying to be sensitive to that. And I think the presence in the United States of a strong Ukrainian-American community can help to deal with that problem, can help to create a sense of identity with us among grassroots people and various political forces in Ukraine that

perhaps will head off some of the tensions that we have experienced in other places.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:11 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Anthony Lake, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; Julian Kulas, chair, Chicago-Kiev Sister City Committee; and Orest Baranyk, vice president, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

**Remarks on the Bipartisan  
Commission on Entitlement Reform  
and an Exchange With Reporters  
February 10, 1994**

**The President.** I want to thank all the members here for agreeing to serve on this Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement Reform. If you look at the membership from the Congress and from the private sector, you see a wide variety of experience and understanding of this issue and a real willingness to work together in a bipartisan spirit for the interest of the United States. I particularly want to thank Senator Bob Kerrey, who proposed this idea, and extend my gratitude to him and to Senator Jack Danforth for agreeing to cochair the Commission.

The Commission will report directly to my National Economic Council later in the year, giving us an opportunity to consider its recommendations as part of the deliberations for preparing the fiscal year 1996 budget. I expect these results to be thought-provoking and significant.

This Commission will be asked to grapple with real issues of entitlement reforms, not caps or gimmicks that defer hard choices but specific and constructive proposals. And we will take very seriously proposals that have strong bipartisan support.

In the last budget, the one that is now in operation, I proposed and the Congress acted on a number of restrictions in cuts and entitlements. We all now, looking ahead, know that our number one entitlement problem is Medicare and Medicaid. They are growing much more rapidly than the rate of inflation plus population. We are committed to reforming these programs through a health security plan. And I was gratified that

notwithstanding some of the disagreements we had with the CBO on the timing of the cuts, the CBO study clearly showed that the proposal we have put on the table will dramatically reduce health care spending in the next decade and beyond. It is clear that there are also other entitlement issues we have to look at, and the Commission will do that, too. We cannot let up on our reforms and our efforts to reduce the deficit and get this economy going again.

The Vice President has done some important work on reinventing Government, which has underscored our commitment to a Government that can do more with less. We are committed now to a plan that will reduce the Federal bureaucracy by 252,000 over the next 5 years. It will be at its lowest level in 30 years. But even if you do that, we can't bring the deficit down unless we deal with other problems.

This panel, I expect, will ask and answer the tough questions. This panel, I expect, will do the kind of work that—something like the balanced budget amendment can never do. It doesn't ask or answer any of the tough questions, but this panel has had the courage and the willingness to face them. And I thank them for that.

If I have learned one thing since I have been President, it is in the end we have to decide on specific matters and that rhetoric sooner or later always has to give way to reality.

I want to thank again all the citizens for agreeing to serve, and in particular I want to thank the Members of Congress in both parties for agreeing to undertake what many might regard as a thankless task. It will not be thankless if it gives us a strong and secure and healthy American economy and society moving into the 21st century. I appreciate your willingness to deal with it, and I assure you that I look forward to your deliberations eagerly.

Senator Kerrey, the floor is yours.

[At this point, Senator Kerrey made brief remarks.]

**Russian Position on Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, it seems that in the aftermath of NATO's decision to issue this ultimatum to the Serbs, that you're having

a very tough time talking to President Yeltsin. Is he deliberately snubbing you?

**The President.** I don't think so. I don't think so. And I expect to talk to him soon. I don't know—I can't say any more than you already know.

**Q.** Well, what is the problem?

**The President.** I don't know. You'll have to ask them. But we've had a lot of high-level consultations on it. Madeleine Albright has talked to her counterpart. Ambassador Collins is there, even though Ambassador Pickering is here. We have no reason to believe at this point that there's a serious problem with our going forward.

I did receive a letter early yesterday from President Yeltsin that I wanted to be the basis of the telephone conversation. And he initiated this letter with me. And I think we can work through it so that we can go forward. And as you know, I said yesterday I was hoping he would agree to help get this peace process on track. So, I don't know what else to say.

### **Social Security**

**Q.** Mr. President, you've appointed some people to the Commission who advocate deep cuts in Social Security benefits, means testing, and so forth. Does that mean that you could go along with that, or would you rule that out before the Commission starts its work?

**The President.** Well, I think Senator Kerrey said that nobody's really interested in cutting Social Security in terms of the social safety net that we have built up in this country. I want to wait and see what they have to say.

In my budget I recommended what amounted to a restriction on the unlimited benefits of very high income people by subjecting more Social Security income to taxation for the top 12 to 14 percent of Social Security earners. But no one that I know of has suggested actually cutting the benefits to people who have paid for them. That's not what's at issue here. So, let's see what the Commission recommends. They're just starting. I don't want to prejudge their deliberations.

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, is NATO prepared to go ahead on Bosnia with air strikes or other measures without Russia's acquiescence, if necessary?

**The President.** Well, we have no reason, I'll say again, we have no reason to believe that—keep in mind, everything we have done with NATO is consistent with action the U.N. has already taken. It's within the umbrella of U.N. action, and Russia was on the Security Council when that happened. So, I don't think we're doing anything inconsistent. There may be people within Russia that don't agree with this at all, but the primary purpose of what we're trying to do is not to get in a fight with the Serbs but to have NATO protect the integrity of Sarajevo and the innocent civilians who live there while we make an effort, which I hope the Russians will participate in, to get the peace process back on track.

**Q.** Mr. President, why do you think after nearly 2 years and 200,000 deaths it took this last incident Saturday to get the NATO allies finally to issue this ultimatum to the Serbs?

**The President.** I can't answer that except to say that I think that there was a feeling—first of all, keep in mind, the people who were opposed to this have troops on the ground there in numbers too small to defend themselves from an overwhelming assault. So all along, I think they were sympathetic with the desire to try to use the muscle of NATO to save civilians. What they felt was that they were saving more lives doing what they were doing now.

And I think that just because the conflict has gone on, a lot of people lost sight of the fact that the United States has largely carried out and largely paid for the largest humanitarian airlift in history, now longer than the Berlin airlift, that the people with troops on the ground there have put thousands of people's lives at risk to try to keep those highways open and to keep people alive. And I think they just felt that the risks didn't outweigh the—or outweighed the benefits.

I think this last horrible incident, coming as it did after a pattern of shelling of Sarajevo, convinced them what I have always believed about this, that Sarajevo is sort of the Humpty Dumpty of Bosnia. If you ever want

it to be put back together again, the country, you've got to keep Sarajevo from total collapse, and you've got to try to save those people if you can. And I think finally they agreed with that, and I applaud them for doing it. But let's not be sanctimonious here. It was harder for them than us because they had their troops on the ground.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:34 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Madeleine K. Albright, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations; James Collins, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large-designate to Russia and the New Independent States; and Thomas R. Pickering, U.S. Ambassador to Russia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### Remarks Honoring the NCAA Football Champion Florida State University Seminoles

February 10, 1994

**The President.** Thank you very much. Please be seated.

I told Coach Bowden that we're about the same size, and I asked why I wasn't invited to play. [Laughter]

**Bobby Bowden.** You've got to talk to him right there.

**The President.** I think it's what you can't see under the suit. [Laughter] Either one of them.

It is a great honor for me as an ardent football fan to welcome the Florida State University football team and the entire FSU football family here today. I want to extend a special thanks to those who made this possible, including the Florida State University president and my longtime friend, Sandy D'Alemberte; interim president Dr. Bernard Sliger—where are you? Bernie, how are you?—who once got me in trouble several years ago by taking me to a music club and making me play with some of his friends; athletic director Bob Goin; and Senator Graham; Senator Mack; Congressman Bacchus; Congressman Hutto; Congressman Peterson; my longtime friend Bud Stack; and many others.

Let me first of all congratulate Florida State on a dream season: a 12-and-1 record,

undefeated in its conference; a comeback victory in the Orange Bowl against a remarkable effort by Nebraska; and best of all, its first ever and much deserved national football championship.

I know Coach Bowden has been chasing that championship dream for a long time, and I know that he tells a story on the subject that, for the benefit of the national audience, I hope he won't mind my repeating.

It seems that sometime in the distant future, his sons, Terry and Tommy, arrive together at the Pearly Gates, and they're startled to find that their name is not on the register. So Saint Peter tells Terry and Tommy they'll have to take the elevator down to the other place. When the elevator opens at the bottom, instead of fire and flame, they're shocked to find bitter cold, icicles hanging from the ceiling, the whole place frozen over, at which point Tommy turns to Terry and says, "I guess Dad finally won a national championship." [Laughter]

There have been so many years when so many people thought that the Florida State Seminoles at the end of a given season were the best team in America. It was really rewarding for those of us who follow football year-in and year-out to see this day come. But what this season really teaches is a lesson that Coach Bowden and I both understand, the power of perseverance. You and your team didn't quit when the sportswriters said you couldn't win the big one. You didn't quit after you lost a tough game to a great Notre Dame team. You didn't quit when you were trailing Nebraska with a minute and 16 seconds left on the clock in the Orange Bowl. And in the end, when everything was on the line, you believed in yourselves and stayed together as a team, and you got the job done.

One of your teammates who isn't here with us today, but I'd like to recognize, Charlie Ward, of course, won the Heisman trophy. But right now he's balancing a different kind of ball as a point guard on your basketball team. I might say that I think my basketball team from Arkansas did a pretty good job last night. I hope some of you saw it. I wish he could have been here with all of you today because he certainly earned the right to also be at the White House.

Finally, let me honor the five starters who made this year's all-academic football team in your conference: Derrick Brooks, Ken Alexander, Clifton Abraham, Richard Coes, and again, Charlie Ward. I want to say that because to be a great athlete is very important, but to be a great student athlete is especially admirable. And these five young men should all be very proud.

You have won a national championship for the first time in the history of your school. I am proud of you all. I am proud to welcome you to the White House. I know that your friends, your fans, and your families back home are proud of you, too. I am awfully glad so many of you came up here to be with these young men on this day that they richly deserve. Thank you for the example you have set, and good luck next season. Congratulations.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:16 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Florida attorney Charles R. "Bud" Stack. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Message to the Congress on Libya** *February 10, 1994*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I hereby report to the Congress on the developments since my last report of July 12, 1993, concerning the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order No. 12543 of January 7, 1986. This report is submitted pursuant to section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ("IEEPA"), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9(c).

1. On December 3, 1993, I announced new measures to tighten economic sanctions against Libya. These measures are taken pursuant to the imposition by the world community of new sanctions against Libya under Security Council ("UNSC") Resolution 883 of November 11, 1993, and are designed to bring to justice the perpetrators of terrorist attacks against Pan Am flight 103 and UTA

flight 772. The actions signal that Libya cannot continue to defy justice and flout the will of the international community with impunity.

UNSC Resolution 883 freezes on a worldwide basis certain financial assets owned or controlled by the Government of Libya or certain Libyan entities and bans provision of equipment for refining and transporting oil. It tightens the international air embargo and other measures imposed in 1992 under UNSC Resolution 748. It is the result of close cooperation between the United States, France, and the United Kingdom, whose citizens were the principal victims of Libyan-sponsored terrorist attacks against Pan Am 103 and UTA 772, and of consultations with Russia and other friends and allies.

On December 2, 1993, I renewed for another year the national emergency with respect to Libya pursuant to IEEPA. This renewal extends the current comprehensive financial and trade embargo against Libya in effect since 1986. Under these sanctions, all trade with Libya is prohibited, and all assets owned or controlled by the Libyan government in the United States or in the possession or control of U.S. persons are blocked. In addition, I have instructed the Secretary of Commerce to reinforce our current trade embargo against Libya by prohibiting the re-export from foreign countries to Libya of U.S.-origin products, including equipment for refining and transporting oil.

2. There has been one amendment to the Libyan Sanctions Regulations, 31 C.F.R. Part 550 (the "Regulations"), administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control ("FAC") of the Department of the Treasury, since my last report on July 12, 1993. The amendment (58 *Fed. Reg.* 47643) requires U.S. financial institutions to provide written notification to FAC of any transfers into blocked accounts within 10 days of each transfer. It also standardizes registration and reporting requirements applicable to all persons holding blocked property and requires the annual designation of an individual contact responsible for maintaining the property in a blocked status. A copy of the amendment is attached to this report.

3. During the current 6-month period, FAC made numerous decisions with respect

to applications for licenses to engage in transactions under the Regulations, issuing 65 licensing determinations—both approvals and denials. Consistent with FAC's ongoing scrutiny of banking transactions, the largest category of license approvals (17) concerned requests by non-Libyan persons or entities to unblock bank accounts initially blocked because of an apparent Libyan interest. One license involved export transactions from the United States to support a United Nations program in Libya. Six licenses were issued authorizing intellectual property protection in Libya. Two licenses were issued that permit U.S. attorneys to provide legal representation under circumstances permitted by the Regulations. FAC has also issued one license authorizing U.S. landlords to liquidate the personalty of the People's Committee for Libyan Students, with the net proceeds from the sale paid into blocked accounts. Finally, FAC has issued three licenses to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, as Protecting Power for Libya, to manage Libyan property in the United States subject to stringent FAC reporting requirements.

4. During the current 6-month period, FAC has continued to emphasize to the international banking community in the United States the importance of identifying and blocking payments made by or on behalf of Libya. The FAC worked closely with the banks to implement new interdiction software systems to identify such payments. As a result, during the reporting period, more than 130 transactions involving Libya, totaling more than \$20.7 million, were blocked.

Since my last report, FAC has collected 39 civil monetary penalties totaling nearly \$277,000 for violations of U.S. sanctions against Libya. All but 8 of the violations involved the failure of banks to block funds transfers to Libyan-owned or -controlled banks, with 5 of the remainder involving the U.S. companies that ordered the funds transfers. The balance involved one case each for violations involving a letter of credit, trademark registrations, and export transactions.

Various enforcement actions carried over from previous reporting periods have continued to be aggressively pursued. Several new investigations of potentially significant violations of the Libyan sanctions have been initi-

ated by FAC and cooperating U.S. law enforcement agencies. Many of these cases are believed to involve complex conspiracies to circumvent the various prohibitions of the Libyan sanctions, as well as the utilization of international diversionary shipping routes to and from Libya. FAC continued to work closely with the Departments of State and Justice to identify U.S. persons who enter into contracts or agreements with the Government of Libya, or other third-country parties, to lobby U.S. Government officials and to engage in public relations work on behalf of the Government of Libya without FAC authorization.

FAC also continued its efforts under the Operation Roadblock initiative. This ongoing program seeks to identify U.S. persons who travel to and/or work in Libya in violation of U.S. law.

FAC has continued to pursue the investigation and identification of Libyan entities as Specially Designated Nationals of Libya. During the reporting period, those activities have resulted in the addition of one third-country Libyan bank to the Specially Designated Nationals list; and FAC has intervened with respect to a Libyan takeover attempt of another foreign bank. FAC is also reviewing options for additional measures directed against Libyan assets in order to ensure strict implementation of UNSC Resolution 883 that has imposed international sanctions against Libyan financial assets.

5. The expenses incurred by the Federal Government in the 6-month period from July 7, 1993, through January 6, 1994, that are directly attributable to the exercise of powers and authorities conferred by the declaration of the Libyan national emergency are estimated at approximately \$1 million. Personnel costs were largely centered in the Department of the Treasury (particularly in the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the Office of the General Counsel, and the U.S. Customs Service), the Department of State, and the Department of Commerce.

6. The policies and actions of the Government of Libya continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. The United States continues to believe that still stronger international measures than

those mandated by UNSC Resolution 883, including a worldwide oil embargo, should be enacted if Libya continues to defy the international community. We remain determined to ensure the perpetrators of the terrorists acts against Pan Am 103 and UTA 772 are brought to justice. The families of the victims in the murderous Lockerbie bombing and other acts of Libyan terrorism deserve nothing less. I shall continue to exercise the powers at my disposal to apply economic sanctions against Libya fully and effectively, so long as those measures are appropriate, and will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments as required by law.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
February 10, 1994.

### **Nomination for Commissioner on the Securities and Exchange Commission**

*February 10, 1994*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Washington attorney Steven M.H. Wallman to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Steven Wallman has long been recognized as a leading expert on securities law and has been actively engaged in the fight for sensible regulation in that area," said the President. "He will make an excellent addition to the SEC."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa of Japan**

*February 11, 1994*

#### **Russian Position on Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, can you tell us about your phone call with Yeltsin, and did you have a big fight? [*Laughter*]

**The President.** No. We laughed a lot about the marvels of modern technology. Even today it was kind of a difficult connec-

tion, interestingly enough. But we had a very good talk, and we agreed that we had the same long-term objective, which was achieving a just peace agreement, and the same short-term objective, to relieve the shelling of Sarajevo. And we agreed that there would be further discussions today at the U.N. and that we would also keep in touch. But I thought it was a very good conversation, and I feel better having had it.

**Q.** Is he going to put pressure on the Serbs, Mr. President?

**Q.** Is he objecting to the ultimatum, the NATO ultimatum?

**Q.** Is he going to put pressure on the Serbs to force them to make concessions?

**The President.** Well, he agreed that the two of us should work to try to bring an agreement about. I'll let him characterize his remarks, but I was encouraged by them.

**Q.** Is he insisting on a U.N. veto right over the NATO action, or is he accepting of NATO action?

**The President.** No, no. I think he felt better when I emphasized the fact that the weapons that are left within the 20-kilometer area would be under the jurisdiction of the U.N., not NATO. I pointed out that the Secretary-General asked NATO to take action under its mandate of last year, to take necessary action to protect the civilians; that taking some jurisdiction over the weapons that are left within that 20-kilometer safety zone was a part of that, but that any jurisdiction would be taken not by NATO but by the U.N.

And so I said the Secretary-General had concluded that we, NATO, could do this under the existing resolutions and that we agreed.

**Q.** Are they now willing to consider lifting the sanctions piecemeal as possibly an incentive to the Serbs, lifting the sanctions incrementally?

**The President.** No, that was not—there was no discussion about that.

**Q.** So is the United States now willing to consider lifting the sanctions incrementally?

**The President.** There was no discussion about that.

#### **Japan**

**Q.** Mr. Prime Minister, do the——

**Q.** How important are these talks to U.S.-Japanese relations?

**The President.** We'll have more to say about that later.

**Q.** Do you think you can have a good conversation with such a difference on the trade issue?

**The President.** We'll have more to say about that later.

#### **President Boris Yeltsin of Russia**

**Q.** It's hard for us to believe that you can't communicate with Yeltsin by telephone. That's a little scary, isn't it?

**The President.** That's what he said. He said we have to make sure it never happened again. He said, "What if we really had to talk about an emergency?" That's what he said, too.

*[At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.]*

#### **Japan**

**Q.** Mr. President, is there any possibility for you to have another meeting with Prime Minister Hosokawa this afternoon or evening or tomorrow morning?

**The President.** I don't know. We haven't started this one yet. I would like to spend a lot of time with him.

**Q.** Because you decided not to leave for Arkansas this evening. We heard that you decided not to leave for Arkansas this evening.

**The President.** The weather is bad there and here.

**Q.** Was it only the weather?

**The President.** Yes. But I mean, I'm always glad to see the Prime Minister. I wish we could go play golf today, but the weather won't permit that either.

**Q.** Mr. President, do you think that the relationship between the U.S. and Japan is now in rough water?

**The President.** No, I think it's very strong. I feel very strongly about what the Prime Minister is trying to do. I supported strongly his political reform package, and I support the economic efforts I think he is trying to make. So I think we have a good relationship. Just because we have some disagreements doesn't mean we don't have a good relationship.

**Q.** So you——

**The President.** More later. We'll have more later. We'll answer your questions at the end of the—at the press conference.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:35 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

#### **The President's News Conference With Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa of Japan February 11, 1994**

**The President.** Good afternoon. It's a pleasure to welcome Prime Minister Hosokawa to the White House. The Prime Minister and I met last in Seattle at the APEC conference. Our dialog there was based on a new honesty and respect that continued in our talks today.

Both of us were elected on a mandate for change, and the Prime Minister has shown real courage and commitment to making change occur by advocating and securing political reforms, by opening Japan's construction and rice markets, and by seeking to deregulate Japan's economy. He also ushered through a tax cut that is a step towards spurring growth. And I know the Prime Minister proposed an even larger budget stimulus. I commend all these steps which can move Japan toward greater openness.

The United States and Japan have a long, deep, and rich relationship. No relationship in the world is more important today. Our security alliance, which is stronger than ever, is essential to the Asian Pacific and elsewhere. Today we discussed our shared interest in the Asian Pacific and its stability, including developments in Russia, China, and elsewhere. And I look forward to continuing this discussion this summer at the G-7 summit in Naples.

Our shared interests are nowhere clearer than on the Korean Peninsula. North Korea's nuclear program poses a serious threat to regional stability and to international non-proliferation efforts. We agreed to continue our close cooperation in pursuing a non-nuclear Korean Peninsula.

Our nations today have also embraced a common agenda for cooperation on global is-

sues such as population, transportation technology, and the environment. It includes a \$12 billion joint initiative to address population and AIDS in developing nations and new environmental assistance to Central and Eastern Europe.

Our discussions today focused chiefly on economics. The central concern of my administration has been preparing our country for the new global economy in the 21st century. That is why we've invested in our people, cut our deficits, and pursued more open markets through NAFTA, through the Uruguay round of GATT, through APEC.

As the world's second largest market, Japan must be our strategic partner in efforts to spur global growth. That is why I've attached as much importance to our economic alliance as to our political and security alliance. For our relationship to be strong, we must have a more mutually beneficial economic partnership. Such a partnership will benefit all our citizens with more jobs and opportunities for American workers and more choices and lower prices for Japanese consumers. Indeed, we seek to open Japan's economy not only for our own products but for those from the rest of the world as well.

Even though we have negotiated over 30 trade agreements with Japan since 1980, Japan still remains less open to imports than any other G-7 nation. Its regulations and practices screen out many of our products, even our most competitive products. To take one example, when our medical technology firms sell in Europe, they earn 40 percent of the market there. In Japan, they earn just 15 percent. The same holds in many other sectors.

Last July, our two Governments agreed on a framework to address a wide range of macroeconomic structural and sectoral trade issues. We focused on opening markets. We agreed to seek agreements containing, and I quote, "objective criteria" that would result in, quote, "tangible progress". We agreed to hold two summits each year to evaluate that progress. Today was the first such meeting. Unfortunately, we've not been able to reach agreement in any of the four areas we identified last July. Japan's offers made in these negotiations simply did not meet the standards agreed to in Tokyo.

Today we could have disguised our differences with cosmetic agreements. But the issues between us are so important for our own nations and for the rest of the world that it is better to have reached no agreement than to have reached an empty agreement. Of course, if Japan has further proposals, our door remains open. But ultimately, Japan's market must be open.

Over the past 40 years, the relationship between the United States and Japan has been the strongest when all three of its components, security, political, and economic, were seen by both our peoples as mutually beneficial. I am committed to improving our economic ties not only because doing so will mean more jobs and better standards of living in both nations but because it will strengthen every aspect of our relationship. I remain confident that we can work together to provide leadership in this new global economy. I have enormous confidence in the sincerity and the capacity and the vision of Prime Minister Hosokawa. And I am absolutely convinced that the relationship between the United States and Japan, founded on mutual respect and responsibility, ever growing in its maturity, will, as it must, remain vibrant and strong.

Mr. Prime Minister.

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** Thank you, Mr. President. Today, President Clinton and I discussed wide-ranging issues from trade and economic matters, the current international situation, and to the future of the Asian-Pacific region and our cooperation on global issues. The list of these extensive issues reflects the matured relationship between Japan and the United States. And to be very candid, I think we had a very good meeting.

As to the framework talks, we have not yet come to agree on all the important issues, despite our intensive negotiations over the past 6 months. We are, however, in agreement that we should in no way allow this result to undermine the strong and friendly relationship between our two countries.

Since I assumed office, my administration has launched a series of measures for macroeconomic management in Japan. The other day I announced a comprehensive package of economic measures, the total amount of

which is the largest scale ever. I am convinced that through these measures, reinforced by appropriate economic policies by other governments, we'll be able to achieve over the medium term a highly significant decrease in our current account surplus.

As to the sectoral issues of the framework talks, our respective positions regarding the relationship between the objective criteria and the numerical targets did not converge. As part of my inner-driven reform, I am determined to take initiatives on our government procurement. To this end, for example, the Government of Japan has already announced such measures as the action program on government procurement, and concrete efforts are being made in line with this program.

In addition, as to the insurance issue, I place particular emphasis on achieving greater transparency in administrative procedures and promoting deregulation, which will create a better business climate for foreign insurance companies in Japan. In the areas of autos and auto parts, positive effects of industrial cooperation between Japan and the U.S. are not steadily becoming apparent. The Government of Japan will continue to provide possible support to cooperation between our private sectors in this field.

There is no doubt that Japan-U.S. cooperation in the areas of political and security relations has expanded and intensified. The increasing possibility of the Asia-Pacific region evolving into a community would give our partnership a new task and a prospect for further development. The suspected development of nuclear weapons by North Korea is currently the highest concern for the security in northeast Asia. This issue also poses a great challenge into the international nuclear nonproliferation regime. Today the President and I had very meaningful discussion on this matter.

In this post-cold-war era, the possible areas of cooperation between Japan and the United States are enormous. In fact, under the framework talks the two countries have discussed such issues of mutual concern as global environment, population, and human immune deficiency virus, or AIDS. Japan will mobilize approximately \$3 billion over the next 7 years to bear on urgent matters of

growing global population and AIDS. The President and I are fully committed to cooperation in these areas.

In the past, Japan and the U.S. sometimes have reached ambiguous agreements which glossed over the problems of the time, only to find them become sources of later misunderstandings between our two countries from time to time. Now I firmly believe that our relationship in this new era is maturing to an extent each of us respects and has confidence in the judgments of the other, each of us makes utmost efforts to tackle the issues that each side responsibly understands and identifies but, at the same time, frankly admit what we can and what we cannot do despite such best efforts. I believe such is the relationship between grownups, as we two are.

Since I took office I've sought to realize a genuine reinstatement of politics in the management of the critical processes of politics, economics, and government administration. As a like-minded colleague trying to bring about reforms in the social and political processes, I highly appreciate and respect the leadership exercised by President Clinton and his administration on both the domestic and international front, including budget deficit reduction and on bringing NAFTA to a successful conclusion and in opening a new frontier for APEC. I am firmly convinced that the reform efforts that President Clinton and I are undertaking would reinforce the vital Japan-U.S. relationship and lead to further progresses in the world community.

Thank you.

**The President.** Helen [Helen Thomas, United Press International].

May I say one thing before we begin? I have agreed that I will call on an American journalist, and then the Prime Minister will recognize a Japanese journalist, and then we will alternate one after the other. That's not a numerical target. [Laughter]

### **Japan-U.S. Trade**

**Q.** Do you think that you were misled last July by the Japanese in terms of their intent to really reach an agreement?

Mr. Prime Minister, do you agree with the President's allegation that you are the most closed of the G-7 nations? And if that's true, why is it so?

**The President.** Well, first of all, the G-7 agreement, the agreement we concluded with Japan last summer was, I think, a good framework. We all recognized that it had to be implemented. I can't say that the people who concluded the agreement last summer, who are not here to defend themselves, did not do it in good faith. I would not say that; I cannot say. All I can tell you is we haven't reached an agreement.

**Q.** Can you say why?

**The President.** Because we couldn't agree on what constituted evidence of market openings, and there are other reasons as well, but at least that is one.

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** In the way we look at it, in the areas of government procurement, insurance business, and so on, in these areas we believe that to a large measure we've been able to boil down the issues. However, unfortunately, at the very end we were not able to clear the hurdle of numerical targets, and we regret that very much. As the President mentioned earlier, in the days ahead, we on each side will try and sort out some problems that remain and do our best efforts in order to resolve the remaining problems and arrive at a good agreement.

**Q.** With regard to how you address the remaining issues, what is the time schedule for reaching an agreement?

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** I don't know. We'd like to reach an agreement as early as possible. But I think there is a need for a little bit of cooling off.

#### **Russian Position on Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, on Bosnia, how do you avoid a major breach with President Yeltsin? He's quoted today as saying that NATO lacks the authority to approve air strikes. You've taken the position that NATO has that authority. Is there any way to reconcile these differences?

**The President.** I think so. We talked about it a little on the phone today, and I reminded President Yeltsin it was the Secretary-General of the United Nations acting under the authority of last summer's U.N. Security resolution, that had asked NATO to develop a plan to stop the shelling of Sarajevo and the innocent killing of civilians, and that there would be no possession taken of weap-

ons left within the 20-kilometer safe zone by NATO but by the U.N. troops. So I don't think, therefore, we have to go back to the Security Council.

They're discussing this in greater detail today in New York. But I think that the most encouraging thing to me was that he agreed we had the same long-term objective, which was a peace agreement, and the same short-term objective, which was to stop the shelling and killing of innocent civilians.

**Q.** But isn't there a difference on this other issue?

**The President.** I don't think so.

#### **Japan-U.S. Trade**

**Q.** Mr. President, now that the trade agreement has failed, how optimistic are you and the members of your administration for the future agreement?

**The President.** I just don't know. You know, the problem may be—it may be one of words; it may be one of the feelings behind the words. Japan has taken the position with which we on the surface do not disagree, that Japan does not wish to commit numerical targets that amount to managed trade. We understand that. We have taken the position that there have to be some objective standards by which to judge whether we are making progress or not, because if we just talk about improving processes, that is what we have done in the past without much progress. That is why last summer we used the words "objective criteria" to include quantitative measures or qualitative measures or both, as appropriate.

For example, I agree that it's not fair to disregard—let me give you some examples—let's suppose there's an area in which our trade is in great imbalance. You have to take into account, in addition to whether there has been progress from, let's say, 1992 to 1995, also what happened to the exchange rate, what happened to domestic demand and the economy in Japan, whether the American business in question produced a product competitive in price and quality and did the things necessary to pierce the Japanese market.

So, it's not for us—we don't think we're asking for numerical targets, we think we're asking for a set of objective criteria by which

we can judge whether we're making progress in opening the market. That, I think, is a fair statement of the nub of our argument. And I have no idea what will happen from here on in. We just didn't make it.

Yes, go ahead.

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, on Bosnia, there were reports that the United States, on the diplomatic front, is considering a piecemeal lifting of the sanctions if the Serbians will be cooperative at the peace talks, and that you have reconsidered your commitment to have 50 percent of the troops in any potential peace-keeping force be American, that in fact, it would only be a third of the ground forces be American if there were a peace agreement in place. Can you comment on that and on also the late reports that more F-15E's are now en route to Bosnia?

**The President.** Let me just say—I can only comment on two things. First of all, in terms of the troops, all we ever said about that was that we would expect to have less than half. We never specified a specific amount. Secondly, I have never even discussed any partial lifting of the Serbian embargo. No one has brought it to me. It has never been discussed in my presence. If it is an option being considered, it's been considered by somebody other than me. It's just not been a part of our discussions.

**Q.** [Inaudible]—violated the cease-fire yesterday?

**The President.** No.

### **Japan-U.S. Trade**

**Q.** With regard to objective criteria, you had an agreement with the previous administration. Would you say that the adjustment was wrong, or does this mean that the Hosokawa administration is going to make a judgment on a new basis?

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** With regard to the things that have been subject to negotiations to date, I believe that we have seen some progress. So this does not mean that we're going to start something anew, but we'll pursue these matters further to build on the results that have been achieved so far.

Is that the point you were asking?

**Q.** Well, the previous administration—the outside cabinet agreed on the framework talks and on objective criteria. So would you say that the previous administration erred in their judgment?

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** No, that's not the case.

**The President.** I get that kind of question all the time. Don't let it bother you. [Laughter]

Go ahead.

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** With regard to the interpretation of numerical targets, I think there is a difference between the two sides, and we have not been able to clear that difference easily.

**Q.** What are the kinds of things that the United States can do to compel Japan to change its ways? And have you given any thought to making it just as hard for Japanese companies to do business over here as it is, as you say, for American companies to do business over there?

**The President.** Well, until 4 o'clock this morning we were working as hard as we could to reach an agreement, so I'm not prepared to say yet. We're going to have to think about that. I tried to characterize this as a period of reflection now. We just have to assess where we are.

**Q.** Mr. President, as you know, the Japanese public very strongly supports the Hosokawa government's policy calling for deregulation and less government intervention into the economic system. Against that background, how would you address the Japanese public's concern that accepting an American request for Japan to agree to predetermine the levels and the quantities of the American imports into the Japanese market would inevitably entail more government intervention into the whole economic system?

**The President.** We do not want that. I mean, I think this is the nub of the disagreement, and I think I understand the Japanese position in addition to the American position. We do not want Japan to commit to a specific volume of imports by a specific time. We do want to assess whether we are making progress toward opening markets with the use of objective criteria rather than just change processes.

One of those criteria would be, what is the difference in the level of imports; another might be, as I said earlier, the exchange rate changes; another might be the state of domestic demand in Japan; another might be the quality and price of the American product as evidenced by how well it's doing in our market or in Europe or somewhere else; another might be whether the American company or the American companies had made the necessary effort to do business in Japan.

In other words, we understand why Japan does not wish to put itself in the position of having to manage its trade in that way. And I think probably what the Japanese negotiators fear is if there is a number in there, even along with a lot of other criteria, that either under my administration or at some time in the future, it will be used as the only basis for evaluating whether America should impose some sort of trade sanctions. That is not our intent. But I think it's fair to say that that is the core of our disagreement. That is, when you put the question the way you did, I agree with your position. But that is not what we are asking to do.

#### **North Korea**

**Q.** Mr. President, you mentioned that you also discussed the situation on the Korean Peninsula. As you know, later this month the International Atomic Energy Agency has to certify that North Korea is or is not engaged in a nuclear weapons program, has developed a nuclear weapons program. How serious is the situation right now? And what do you and Prime Minister Hosokawa, what do you plan on doing if the IAEA certifies it can no longer say that North Korea is not complying with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty?

**The President.** Well, we discussed that today, and obviously we discussed what our options were, including sanctions. We discussed also the fact that in this particular policy, Japan, China, South Korea, and the United States all want a nonnuclear Korean Peninsula. All very much want North Korea to comply with our IAEA standards and therefore permitting it to resume some contact with the South. That has been the position of all four of our countries, and what

we're doing now is consulting all of us among one another to try to see what our options are. But obviously, the sanctions option is one option.

Do you have anything to add?

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** Well, we also have a very strong and deep concern of the issue. Within the coming 10 days or so, very soon, I would say, this issue is going to face a climax. And we very much hope that North Korea will move in the right direction. As President Clinton said, we shall, together with the United States, China, and South Korea, we would like to step up our approach vis-a-vis North Korea. At the U.N. Security Council, if a sanction is proposed, then Japan, to the extent Japanese laws allow, will put in place all possible measures.

#### **Japan-U.S. Trade**

**Q.** I have a question for both leaders. Looking at the past 6 months of negotiations, we could detect so much new mutual distrust from each side, from American side, a distrust of having been cheated, and from Japanese side, a distrust of this objective criteria could be for sanction. So do you have any idea of removing this distrust and changing the mood and course of coming discussions?

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** Well, we said we'll just cool our head for a while.

**The President.** Well, let me say, in the last 6 months my personal trust and admiration for Prime Minister Hosokawa has only increased, and for the government, because of political reform, because Japan exercised leadership in the Uruguay round, because of the initiatives on construction and rice, because of the fight for tax reform and the stimulus, because of the deregulation effort. I think that Japan is moving in the right direction.

Both of us came to this office carrying, if you will, the accumulated either fears or experiences of years and years of trade negotiations and frustrations. So I would say that this trust issue, I would hope, can be worked out. But I don't want to minimize it. I think it's a very serious problem because the other approaches have still left us with such a huge trade deficit which causes consumer prices to be very high in Japan and which puts our

people here and our economy in a very difficult situation.

So I would say that the rest of our relationship is in good shape, the security relationship, the political relationship. I would say that my level of personal trust in the Prime Minister and his government is very strong. But I would say this is a serious problem.

**Q.** I'd like to ask the Prime Minister if, after being here these days and having this longer-than-expected consultation today with President Clinton, that you are more prepared than you may have been to believe that when the United States side says, "Yes, we may want numerical progress indicators, but we don't want managed trade," that that is true?

**Prime Minister Hosokawa.** Well, as you've just said, rightly, we do not want managed trade, and I think I speak on behalf of everyone when I say that. Unfortunately, as the President mentioned in passing earlier, too, we don't want numerical targets to gain a life of its own and turn into another semiconductor case, because at the end of the day, we believe that will lead to managed trade. My administration is promoting deregulation, and so it runs right in the face of our basic tenet. This is what I've been telling the President during our meeting today.

**The President.** That, if we were asking for the semiconductor agreement, it would be right. But that's not what we're asking for. What we're asking for is what we agreed to last summer, which was a way of measuring by objective standards whether progress is being made in opening markets.

And I want to say, we've not sought anything for the United States we've not sought for other countries as well. We've sought no special access or special treatment. And we just seek a list, if you will, of those things by which you could determine whether progress is being made, or if progress is not being made, that there are reasons other than closed market policies for the lack of progress. There could be reasons other than that: no domestic demand, changes in the exchange rates, inadequate effort by Americans, not competitive products or services.

**Q.** I think that the opening of Japanese market is very important, and I think Japanese consumers and Japanese people believe

in that. But I think the reason why you couldn't come up with an agreement today for the framework talks is that because Japanese people—or the numerical target approach is not really popular among the Japanese people or Japanese industry, including Japanese bureaucrats. So I wonder whether you think, Mr. President, whether you think that you would come up with any agreement or any result or outcome in the near future with this numerical target approach? Also, I wonder whether you think that is supported by the Japanese ordinary audience?

And also, I heard that Mr. Gore raised the question of Japanese bureaucrats in his talks with Mr. Hata. I wonder whether, Mr. President, if you think that the Japanese bureaucrat is a kind of burden or a barrier in opening up Japanese market? [*Laughter*]

**The President.** I thought you'd never ask. No.

First of all, I understand that the numerical target is not popular, as you said, among the Japanese people or the Japanese Government. America's trade deficit with Japan is not very popular among the American people or the American Government. It's hard to explain it, year-in and year-out always getting bigger.

I think in every society, the permanent government is more change-averse than the changing government. I think that is true in every society. In some societies it's more true than others. And the stronger the permanent civil service is, if you will, in the making of policy, the more likely they are to be change-averse. If you look at the history of Japan from where you started after the Second World War through the next 45-plus years, having a system in which you produce for your own market and the world, had high savings rates, low consumption rates, relatively closed markets, and relatively high value products, worked dramatically to improve the standard of living of your people. But at some point as your growth rates become more normal, as they have in the last 10 years, and as the capacity of your people alters and the aspirations of your people alter, you have to develop a more open economy and society.

I couldn't say it any more eloquently than the Prime Minister did in the book that he

wrote that he gave me to read. So I don't want to pick a fight with any particular sector of Japanese society. I would just say that we know we're in a process of change. We're both committed to it. That's the good news. I also think it's good news that we didn't come up with an agreement today that didn't mean anything. And we're just going to have to keep dealing with this and try to find some way out of it, because we have to come to trust each other across systems that are still very different.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's 46th news conference began at 2:41 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. Prime Minister Hosokawa spoke in Japanese, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

### **Interview With California Newspaper Publishers** *February 11, 1994*

**The President.**—workers who are helping the community, and their response has been one of the most timely, comprehensive, and effective in memory. And as I emphasized when I visited you a few weeks ago, while short-term disaster relief is absolutely necessary, I want to assure you that we'll be there over the long run as well.

The latest information on the status of the disaster assistance is this. The conference on the supplemental appropriation has just concluded. With luck, I'll be able to sign this legislation tomorrow morning. I was in Los Angeles within 48 hours of that quake, and your needs were clear to me and overwhelming. The following week, as soon as Congress returned from its recess, I transmitted to them a formal request for funds prepared by our OMB Director, Leon Panetta, from California. I'm pleased that Congress, led by the California delegation, has acted so quickly and so responsibly. In total, this legislation will bring the entire amount of Federal disaster assistance to southern California to about \$10 billion.

I know there's been a little public debate about whether States have an obligation to match 10 percent of these funds. I think they

should; everyone must take some responsibility and do their share. It's what we did in the terrible 500-year floods in the Midwest, and it's what we should do here.

These funds will help meet the immediate need. But California and all America, as you know, face a larger challenge: creating jobs and creating growth in a tough global economy, restoring the American dream for middle class people, and bringing our whole country together as a nation again. That's why I came to office with a comprehensive economic strategy designed to get the deficit down, lower interest rates, keep inflation down, free up investments, and create jobs. It's working.

Of course, there are still too many who haven't benefited and too many regions that have not really felt movement yet. But before our plan took effect last year, the 1995 budget was projected to be \$302 billion. Now it's expected to be \$176 billion, a 40 percent reduction. Core inflation and long-term interests rates are at historic lows. Home sales are up, car sales are up, and last year this economy created almost 2 million jobs, 90 percent of them in the private sector. That's more than in the previous 4 years combined.

But in creating a national strategy, we tried to be exceedingly mindful that California faces very serious problems different from and greater than any other State; especially southern California faces these problems. And as I have said repeatedly, in every region of the country we can't hope to rebuild the American economy until we also restore your economy, which accounts for one-eighth of all America's output. We've worked hard to do that.

Many of the elements of our economic plan will benefit California, including the national information superhighway, our efforts to develop new environmental technologies. NAFTA was a huge win for California and so was the GATT agreement and the reduction in export controls on communications equipment and computers. And nearly a quarter of the grants awarded for defense conversion and technology reinvestment have gone to California-led projects.

We are doing better, but our economic problems didn't come overnight, and they

won't go away overnight. We need continued discipline, especially in the budget.

The budget I just introduced is the toughest budget Congress has seen yet. Adjusted for inflation, we'll cut more than 60 percent of the major accounts in the budget. We cut more than 300 specific nondefense programs, 115 of which we eliminate outright. Half the Cabinet departments take budget cuts. We slash the Federal bureaucracy by 118,000 people. If the Congress adopts this budget, it will keep the deficit coming down, interest rates coming down, the investment climate will continue to improve, we'll continue to create jobs, and we'll be able to invest in the things that make us strong and secure.

That includes investing over \$350 million in new funds for border security to control illegal immigration, which will allow us to increase by 40 percent the number of border patrol officers on the San Diego border this year. These funds are in the new budget. The budget adds hundreds of millions of dollars in additional funds to offset California's cost of providing medical services to indigents and to providing educational services to disadvantaged children. Both will help you to respond to the needs of the immigrant population. We've added these funds and specifically redesigned spending formulas precisely because States like California have had special demands placed on them. And this budget includes \$1.6 billion that are new for new highway and transit projects in California, above and beyond the emergency funds which are desperately needed in the wake of the earthquake.

All these are new funds. All are new investments in California's future. You need them, and I'll fight for them. In addition, continued budget discipline means that we can do things like lift the standards of every school in America and create a reemployment system to offer new skills for our displaced workers, replacing our old unemployment system which doesn't offer those skills.

If this budget passes, we'll be able to put 100,000 more police officers on the street including thousands and thousands in California, lock up career criminals for life, and we can get serious about drug treatment and prevention. We can begin to change the wel-

fare system as we know it, and we can reform health care. Unless we do that and guarantee every American private health insurance that can never be taken away, we'll never be able to control this deficit in the long run, never have the money we need to invest in the future and our jobs, and never provide real security to America's working families.

The Congressional Budget Office pointed out last week that our health care plan saves an enormous amount of money over the next decade, will not cost jobs in the American economy, and can be done in the way we have proposed it. We can do this health care reform as our proposal does by simply building on what works best in the present system. Our current proposal retains private insurance, retains the freedom to choose plans and doctors, and retains the employer-based system that 9 out of 10 working people already use. We stress primary care and preventive care. We increase medical research and provide drug benefits and long-term care to the elderly. And our plan will save money in the long run.

As I said, if you review the Congressional Budget Office study just concluded, it says our plan reduces the projected growth of health care costs, reduces the deficit over time dramatically, improves wages, and could benefit all small businesses. Small businesses now are in a pickle. Seventy percent of the small businesses in this country cover their employees, but they pay 35 to 40 percent more for insurance premiums. The other 30 percent don't cover their employees, and when those folks get sick, the rest of us pay the bill because their costs are passed along through higher hospital and insurance costs.

Now, what will happen if we don't take these steps? We'll go on charging older people more than younger people just because they're older. Three out of four of us will continue to have lifetime limits on our coverage so that just when we need it most, we'll lose health insurance coverage. Small businesses will continue to spend 35 to 40 percent more for premiums than big business. One hundred thousand Americans a month will continue to lose their coverage permanently. Eighty-one million Americans with so-called preexisting conditions will continue to be denied coverage or charged more or

feel that they can never change jobs without losing their coverage. And sometime every year, 58 million of our fellow citizens will have no insurance at all. And the cost of health care will keep destroying the Federal budget. There will be no money left for more police or better schools or newer technology or for any of the things we need to get your economy coming back.

Your nonpartisan legislative analysis recently estimated through its office that our plan will save California, and I quote, "hundreds of millions of dollars in the early years and more in later years." They concluded that our plan should enhance California's long-term economic prospects, encourage people to move off welfare, and save California approximately \$700 million a year in care for the indigent.

I am enthusiastic about the health care debate. It's exciting because it's about the future, about facing up to our challenges. This ought not to be a partisan issue. We can differ over the specific prescriptions for what should be done, but this year proves that we can differ and still get the job done for America.

As I said in the State of the Union Address, our Nation is growing stronger, but it must be stronger still. We've begun to make it stronger. We've begun to solve our problems. But we must stay together and stay focused on the future so that we can move forward with the hopefulness that is at the core of the California spirit and at the heart of the American dream.

Thank you very much.

### **Public Libraries**

**Q.** Mr. President, my question goes to the crisis in our library system. If my information is correct, during our recession we've been closing libraries in this country at the rate of one a day. And by contrast, during the Great Depression, I don't believe one library was closed. This is a natural question from a group of people that love the printed word more than most, and many of us are involved in private initiatives to help our city and country libraries. But I wonder what you might do, sir.

**The President.** Well, given the problems we have in the Federal budget and given the

fact that we need to use as much money as we can for education and training and new technologies, I would think that any Federal help to libraries would have to come in the form of some initiative that we have in furtherance of that, like an adult literacy initiative.

I do think the library system in this country will be dramatically helped by being able to hook into the information superhighway, and we've already made that commitment. I think that will make a difference. But I'm afraid that the lion's share of that work will have to be done at the State and local level.

I know when I was a Governor in my former life, we really worked hard to get more State help for libraries because we knew that local government simply could not afford to do it. In the 1980's, when so much Federal spending was cut back and so many new responsibilities were put on local governments, it was very tough. I have found that most voters, when given the chance, if they know they're dedicating the money to do it, will vote to save their local library. And what we did at home was to give them the opportunity to do that.

I will look into it. If you have any other specific ideas, I'd be glad to look into them. But I think the literacy mission of libraries and the information superhighway are the two main areas in which the Federal Government can probably be of help.

**Q.** Thank you, sir.

**The President.** Thank you. Thank you.

### **Information Superhighway**

**Q.** Mr. President, as you might imagine, we've been spending a bit of time talking about technology and the future here in the last couple of days, and my question relates to that. Newspapers present issues with a certain amount of depth that other media don't often attempt. Is there something there that you'd like to see or think ought to be preserved in the new information superhighway?

**The President.** Absolutely. One of my staff aides, when we were coming over here, and I had a conversation about this very issue and about how the information superhighway needs to be both wide and deep, deep in the way that newspapers are. I can under-

stand how you might have some concern that it might become a nationalized version of E-mail or something and be too narrow. Our view of it is that we ought to incorporate the kind of in-depth information that newspapers provide in the information superhighway.

**Q.** Thank you.

### **Immigration**

**Q.** Mr. President, you referred to—the with the obligation of the Federal Government to meet California—to match and pay for California's obligation—California's payments to and for care and service of illegal immigrants. You referred to that in your remarks about your budget. Will that fully cover that obligation?

**The President.** Well, it's hard to know exactly because it's hard to know what the figure is. The estimates vary rather dramatically. But I can tell you this: Last year, in our first round of budget cuts, we still included several hundred million dollars in more money to deal with the cost of immigration, especially immigrant health care and immigrant education. This year, we have much more money in there yet again. And this year we have in addition to that enough money, as I said, to drastically increase border patrols across the country, including a 40 percent increase along the San Diego border.

So we're getting closer; that's all I know. Frankly, we don't have a very good way of estimating what those costs are, and I agree that we need more. But because I have heard for years the Governors of California and Texas and Florida, particularly, talk to me about this problem, we made a commitment when I came in that each year we would try to do as much as we possibly could to help cover these costs that are imposed on States because of immigration. And we have certainly made more progress in the last 2 years, even with tough budgets, than have been made in a long time. And we'll continue to try to find more exact ways of measuring what the costs are, because I do think that if we had them measured, it would be easier to know whether we're meeting our target.

### **Defense Conversion**

**Q.** Mr. President, I think you touched on my question in your remarks, but I'd like you

to expand on it a bit if you could. Given the cuts in defense spending and the resulting impact on aerospace jobs in California, what plans do you have to help our State replace those jobs and regain economic viability?

**The President.** Well, we're doing a number of things. First of all, I have been very aggressively involved with our major aerospace companies in trying to increase exports of all kinds to try to build the job base. And I expect you'll be seeing a whole series of announcements about that over the coming year.

Secondly, we have worked hard with a lot of the aerospace companies to try to get them involved in dual-use technologies, to make sure they were engaged in the technology reinvestment project, where we take a significant portion of the money by which we reduce defense spending and make it available for commercial research and development. Rockwell International, for example, which I visited in California recently, has been quite aggressive and active and successful in that regard in trying to find new ways to put people to work.

And thirdly, in our conversion plans we've been very aggressive at working with local communities to try to help them make the most of the facilities they have and the human resources they have to try to attract new investment for new jobs.

We believe that since we started doing this last year, and we spent over \$500 million on this last year and will spend more money this year than we did last year, that we will be able to substantially accelerate the rate at which people either find new work in the same industry or find comparable jobs in other industries, if we can get the technology reinvestment going.

So that's my commitment. One of the things that we dramatically increased in this budget was the technology reinvestment. I'd also like to point out that last year, because of the combination of low interest rates and new incentives, we had an all-time high in venture capitalizations for new corporations in the high-tech area. And I hope we're going to break that record again this year. Those companies, as you know, are disproportionately located in California. And if we can keep those new companies starting, then they

will begin to provide other totally different employment opportunities for a lot of those folks.

### **Health Care Reform**

**Q.** Mr. President, I have to admit I'm a little confused, and I hope you can help me on this. You made your comments in your earlier remarks about your judgment of the impact of your health plan on businesses. And of course, the critics of your plan suggest that the costs of this expanded medical care will be borne largely on the shoulders of businesses. And I'm wondering if you could give us an idea of what your judgment is of what this impact will be on businesses, particularly relatively small employers like publishers represented in this room.

**The President.** Well, first of all, let's go back. If you look at all the studies, there was a study by the Lewin Group, which were mostly health care folks who had been in and out of Government, many of them were in the Reagan and Bush administrations. And the Lewin study said that a majority of American employers and employees would pay the same or less money for the same or greater health care, that people who do not have any health coverage at all or people who have very, very limited, like catastrophic policies with very high deductibles, would pay more. But under our plan, we put a ceiling of 7.9 percent of payroll for full-time employees on all employers and then lowered that all the way down as low as 3.9 for smaller businesses with average payroll below \$24,000 a year. So there are a whole series of discounts available for private insurance there.

Let me just say, the flip side is that if you look at how much America as a nation is spending on health care, we spend 14.5 percent of our income on health care. Canada spends 10; Germany and Japan spend less than 9. Now, about half of that gap is due to the fact that we spend more on medical technology and medical research than other countries, and we wouldn't change that for the world, I don't think. About half of it is due to the fact that we are more violent and have higher AIDS rates than other countries. We would change that if we could. But we can't in this health care bill.

Now, if you take that out of the way, the rest of this system's costs that are out of line with any other country in the world are solely due to the crazy way we finance health care and the fact that not everybody has coverage, so you've got massive cost shifting in it. So I just refuse to believe that we're the only advanced country in the world that can't figure out a way to provide health care for all of its citizens. Germany has absorbed Eastern Germany, taken that enormous burden, kept health care costs under 9 percent, and their unemployment rate is still almost exactly what ours is.

So we know that this can be done. And the congressional process is started now. There's been an awful lot of misinformation about this plan, but as I said, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office just issued a report which estimated that there would be no net loss in jobs, in fact, would probably be a net gain in jobs, if our plan passed.

So I would urge you to read it carefully, if you have suggestions about what you think is wrong with it, to let us know what you think is wrong with it. And we'll be glad to look at those things. The only bottom-line commitment I have is that the United States should not go on being the only country in the world with an advanced economy that can't figure out how to give some form of guaranteed private health care to all of its working people. Poor people get it, and other people get it. Most people who don't have it are the working poor. And so I think that we have to find a way to do that. And I believe that our plan is the most cost-effective, most reasonable way to do it.

But we're going to have 4 or 5 months of congressional debate. And as I said, what I wish you would do if you have a concern about this is get someone to analyze it who particularly—maybe a doctor or someone who has no necessary ax to grind, tell us what you think is wrong with it or how you think it can be improved, and that can become part of the ongoing debate. I mean, California has an enormously large congressional delegation that will be in a position to have a big impact on how this ultimately comes out.

I don't want to do anything I thought would cost jobs. I think this will gain us jobs. I think that if we pass this bill, the percentage

of our income going to health care 5 years from now will be markedly less than it will be if we don't. And I think, therefore, we will have more jobs in America as a result of controlling health care costs and providing guaranteed health care than we will if we don't do it. And my evidence is all the other countries in the world that have done it are spending less money on health care.

**Q.** Thank you.

**Q.** Mr. President, I do have a couple of specifics on the health care plan I'd like to ask you about. I have had health care for my employees for 10 years, and I support your universal health care plan with two exceptions. One, when both parents work, both employers must pay 80 percent of the health care for the family. This overlap makes the plan onerous. Two, also with specific regard to the newspaper industry, we have many distribution people and freelancers who choose to work just a few hours a week. We can't make full-time jobs of those because the distribution has to be done in such a concentrated fashion. Paying the full employer's share of those people's health care really becomes quite staggering to the newspaper industry, specifically. What can be done about that?

**The President.** Well, first, for part-time workers who work over 10 hours a week, the full share would not be due unless people worked 30 hours a week. If it's between 10 and 30, it's less than the full share, but some contribution would be required.

This is a general problem, by the way. We had to find a way to cover part-time workers. But some employers, perhaps not in the newspaper industry, but some employers, let's say they have a permanent payroll of more or less 500, they may have 6,000 part-time employees coming in and out, and they're worried about the bookkeeping problems with this. So we're, frankly, looking for a way to deal with this that is fair, but we know we have to find some way, given how many part-time workers there are in this country, to find the coverage for part-time workers. And so we asked for a pro rata contribution from the employer but not a full contribution for the part-time workers.

On the other issue, we had a lot of debates about this because a lot of families have been

in the situation over time—our family has been—where you have fairly decent health insurance policies that you can access at either place, but if you choose, you only buy one at one place. And I understand what you're saying there.

The problem that we run up against is if you require all employers to make a contribution and employees to match, or at least you give them the right to require their employees to pay the match, which most people do anyway, then will it be fair to one small business as compared to another if just by the luck of the draw the families always choose to use one plan over another? We're trying to work through that. And the reason we adopted the plan that the idea that everybody was paid we thought under those circumstances, one would pay as an individual so that the premiums would be quite a bit lower, but it would avoid putting some businesses at a dramatic competitive disadvantage to others.

Again, that was one of the tough issues in this whole debate. If you have an idea about it, I would urge you to get in touch with our health care task force. We tried to work through it in a way that wouldn't put any group of businesses or individual business at a disadvantage compared to others. And that's why we wound up with that approach, giving people the option to, in effect, pay lower rates at each place and pay something, than pay a much higher rate at one place and nothing at all at another.

**Q.** Mr. President, we appreciate you taking time out from your busy schedule to address us. You'll always have a special place in the history of this organization since you've, today, become the first President of the United States to ever address the leading State newspaper organization in the U.S.

Once again, thank you very much.

**The President.** Well, I've enjoyed it very much. And I thank you all very much. I just want to try to encourage you. You know, I know California has been through so much. You went through an earthquake in the north a couple of years ago, the fires, the earthquake in the south, the riots in L.A., and all the incredible economic problems because of the defense downsizing going back to the late eighties. But fundamentally, the health,

the strength, the diversity of California is staggering. And the future is bright. And I am committed to doing everything I can to make sure you get fair treatment and a genuine partnership and a better chance at a tomorrow from our administration.

And I thank you, and I thank you for your probing questions. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:33 p.m. via satellite from Room 459 of the Old Executive Office Building. The press release issued by the Office of the Press Secretary did not contain the complete opening remarks of the President. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

**Executive Order 12898—Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations**

*February 11, 1994*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

**Section 1—1. Implementation.**

**1-101. Agency Responsibilities.** To the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, and consistent with the principles set forth in the report on the National Performance Review, each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands.

**1-102. Creation of an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice.** (a) Within 3 months of the date of this order, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency ("Administrator") or the Administrator's designee shall convene an interagency Federal Working Group on Environmental Justice ("Working Group"). The Working Group shall comprise the heads of the following executive agencies and offices,

or their designees: (a) Department of Defense; (b) Department of Health and Human Services; (c) Department of Housing and Urban Development; (d) Department of Labor; (e) Department of Agriculture; (f) Department of Transportation; (g) Department of Justice; (h) Department of the Interior; (i) Department of Commerce; (j) Department of Energy; (k) Environmental Protection Agency; (l) Office of Management and Budget; (m) Office of Science and Technology Policy; (n) Office of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy; (o) Office of the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy; (p) National Economic Council; (q) Council of Economic Advisers; and (r) such other Government officials as the President may designate. The Working Group shall report to the President through the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy and the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy.

(b) The Working Group shall: (1) provide guidance to Federal agencies on criteria for identifying disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations;

(2) coordinate with, provide guidance to, and serve as a clearinghouse for, each Federal agency as it develops an environmental justice strategy as required by section 1-103 of this order, in order to ensure that the administration, interpretation and enforcement of programs, activities and policies are undertaken in a consistent manner;

(3) assist in coordinating research by, and stimulating cooperation among, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other agencies conducting research or other activities in accordance with section 3-3 of this order;

(4) assist in coordinating data collection, required by this order;

(5) examine existing data and studies on environmental justice;

(6) hold public meetings as required in section 5-502(d) of this order; and

(7) develop interagency model projects on environmental justice that evidence cooperation among Federal agencies.

*1-103. Development of Agency Strategies.*

(a) Except as provided in section 6-605 of this order, each Federal agency shall develop an agency-wide environmental justice strategy, as set forth in subsections (b)–(e) of this section that identifies and addresses disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. The environmental justice strategy shall list programs, policies, planning and public participation processes, enforcement, and/or rulemakings related to human health or the environment that should be revised to, at a minimum: (1) promote enforcement of all health and environmental statutes in areas with minority populations and low-income populations; (2) ensure greater public participation; (3) improve research and data collection relating to the health of and environment of minority populations and low-income populations; and (4) identify differential patterns of consumption of natural resources among minority populations and low-income populations. In addition, the environmental justice strategy shall include, where appropriate, a timetable for undertaking identified revisions and consideration of economic and social implications of the revisions.

(b) Within 4 months of the date of this order, each Federal agency shall identify an internal administrative process for developing its environmental justice strategy, and shall inform the Working Group of the process.

(c) Within 6 months of the date of this order, each Federal agency shall provide the Working Group with an outline of its proposed environmental justice strategy.

(d) Within 10 months of the date of this order, each Federal agency shall provide the Working Group with its proposed environmental justice strategy.

(e) Within 12 months of the date of this order, each Federal agency shall finalize its environmental justice strategy and provide a copy and written description of its strategy to the Working Group. During the 12 month period from the date of this order, each Federal agency, as part of its environmental justice strategy, shall identify several specific

projects that can be promptly undertaken to address particular concerns identified during the development of the proposed environmental justice strategy, and a schedule for implementing those projects.

(f) Within 24 months of the date of this order, each Federal agency shall report to the Working Group on its progress in implementing its agency-wide environmental justice strategy.

(g) Federal agencies shall provide additional periodic reports to the Working Group as requested by the Working Group.

*1-104. Reports to the President.* Within 14 months of the date of this order, the Working Group shall submit to the President, through the Office of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy and the Office of the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, a report that describes the implementation of this order, and includes the final environmental justice strategies described in section 1-103(e) of this order.

**Sec. 2-2. Federal Agency Responsibilities for Federal Programs.** Each Federal agency shall conduct its programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment, in a manner that ensures that such programs, policies, and activities do not have the effect of excluding persons (including populations) from participation in, denying persons (including populations) the benefits of, or subjecting persons (including populations) to discrimination under, such programs, policies, and activities, because of their race, color, or national origin.

**Sec. 3-3. Research, Data Collection, and Analysis.**

*3-301. Human Health and Environmental Research and Analysis.* (a) Environmental human health research, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall include diverse segments of the population in epidemiological and clinical studies, including segments at high risk from environmental hazards, such as minority populations, low-income populations and workers who may be exposed to substantial environmental hazards.

(b) Environmental human health analyses, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall identify multiple and cumulative exposures.

(c) Federal agencies shall provide minority populations and low-income populations the

opportunity to comment on the development and design of research strategies undertaken pursuant to this order.

**3-302. Human Health and Environmental Data Collection and Analysis.** To the extent permitted by existing law, including the Privacy Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. section 552a): (a) each Federal agency, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall collect, maintain, and analyze information assessing and comparing environmental and human health risks borne by populations identified by race, national origin, or income. To the extent practical and appropriate, Federal agencies shall use this information to determine whether their programs, policies, and activities have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations;

(b) In connection with the development and implementation of agency strategies in section 1-103 of this order, each Federal agency, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall collect, maintain and analyze information on the race, national origin, income level, and other readily accessible and appropriate information for areas surrounding facilities or sites expected to have a substantial environmental, human health, or economic effect on the surrounding populations, when such facilities or sites become the subject of a substantial Federal environmental administrative or judicial action. Such information shall be made available to the public, unless prohibited by law; and

(c) Each Federal agency, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall collect, maintain, and analyze information on the race, national origin, income level, and other readily accessible and appropriate information for areas surrounding Federal facilities that are: (1) subject to the reporting requirements under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 U.S.C. section 11001-11050 as mandated in Executive Order No. 12856; and (2) expected to have a substantial environmental, human health, or economic effect on surrounding populations. Such information shall be made available to the public, unless prohibited by law.

(d) In carrying out the responsibilities in this section, each Federal agency, whenever

practicable and appropriate, shall share information and eliminate unnecessary duplication of efforts through the use of existing data systems and cooperative agreements among Federal agencies and with States, local, and tribal governments.

**Sec. 4-4. Subsistence Consumption of Fish and Wildlife.**

**4-401. Consumption Patterns.** In order to assist in identifying the need for ensuring protection of populations with differential patterns of subsistence consumption of fish and wildlife, Federal agencies, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall collect, maintain, and analyze information on the consumption patterns of populations who principally rely on fish and/or wildlife for subsistence. Federal agencies shall communicate to the public the risks of those consumption patterns.

**4-402. Guidance.** Federal agencies, whenever practicable and appropriate, shall work in a coordinated manner to publish guidance reflecting the latest scientific information available concerning methods for evaluating the human health risks associated with the consumption of pollutant-bearing fish or wildlife. Agencies shall consider such guidance in developing their policies and rules.

**Sec. 5-5. Public Participation and Access to Information.** (a) The public may submit recommendations to Federal agencies relating to the incorporation of environmental justice principles into Federal agency programs or policies. Each Federal agency shall convey such recommendations to the Working Group.

(b) Each Federal agency may, whenever practicable and appropriate, translate crucial public documents, notices, and hearings relating to human health or the environment for limited English speaking populations.

(c) Each Federal agency shall work to ensure that public documents, notices, and hearings relating to human health or the environment are concise, understandable, and readily accessible to the public.

(d) The Working Group shall hold public meetings, as appropriate, for the purpose of fact-finding, receiving public comments, and conducting inquiries concerning environmental justice. The Working Group shall prepare for public review a summary of the com-

ments and recommendations discussed at the public meetings.

**Sec. 6-6. General Provisions.**

**6-601. Responsibility for Agency Implementation.** The head of each Federal agency shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with this order. Each Federal agency shall conduct internal reviews and take such other steps as may be necessary to monitor compliance with this order.

**6-602. Executive Order No. 12250.** This Executive order is intended to supplement but not supersede Executive Order No. 12250, which requires consistent and effective implementation of various laws prohibiting discriminatory practices in programs receiving Federal financial assistance. Nothing herein shall limit the effect or mandate of Executive Order No. 12250.

**6-603. Executive Order No. 12875.** This Executive order is not intended to limit the effect or mandate of Executive Order No. 12875.

**6-604. Scope.** For purposes of this order, Federal agency means any agency on the Working Group, and such other agencies as may be designated by the President, that conducts any Federal program or activity that substantially affects human health or the environment. Independent agencies are requested to comply with the provisions of this order.

**6-605. Petitions for Exemptions.** The head of a Federal agency may petition the President for an exemption from the requirements of this order on the grounds that all or some of the petitioning agency's programs or activities should not be subject to the requirements of this order.

**6-606. Native American Programs.** Each Federal agency responsibility set forth under this order shall apply equally to Native American programs. In addition, the Department of the Interior, in coordination with the Working Group, and, after consultation with tribal leaders, shall coordinate steps to be taken pursuant to this order that address Federally-recognized Indian Tribes.

**6-607. Costs.** Unless otherwise provided by law, Federal agencies shall assume the financial costs of complying with this order.

**6-608. General.** Federal agencies shall implement this order consistent with, and to the extent permitted by, existing law.

**6-609. Judicial Review.** This order is intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch and is not intended to, nor does it create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person. This order shall not be construed to create any right to judicial review involving the compliance or non-compliance of the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any other person with this order.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
February 11, 1994.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:07 p.m., February 14, 1994]

Note: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on February 16.

## **Memorandum on Environmental Justice**

*February 11, 1994*

*Memorandum for the Heads  
of All Departments and Agencies*

**Subject:** Executive Order on Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

Today I have issued an Executive order on Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. That order is designed to focus Federal attention on the environmental and human health conditions in minority communities and low-income communities with the goal of achieving environmental justice. That order is also intended to promote nondiscrimination in Federal programs substantially affecting human health and the environment, and to provide minority communities and low-income communities access to public information on, and an opportunity for public participation in, matters relating to human health or the environment.

The purpose of this separate memorandum is to underscore certain provision of existing law that can help ensure that all communities and persons across this Nation live in a safe and healthful environment. Environmental and civil rights statutes provide many opportunities to address environmental hazards in minority communities and low-income communities. Application of these existing statutory provisions is an important part of this Administration's efforts to prevent those minority communities and low-income communities from being subject to disproportionately high and adverse environmental effects.

I am therefore today directing that all department and agency heads take appropriate and necessary steps to ensure that the following specific directives are implemented immediately:

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, each Federal agency shall ensure that all programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance that affect human health or the environment do not directly, or through contractual or other arrangements, use criteria, methods, or practices that discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

Each Federal agency shall analyze the environmental effects, including human health, economic and social effects, of Federal actions, including effects on minority communities and low-income communities, when such analysis is required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. section 4321 *et seq.* Mitigation measures outlined or analyzed in an environmental assessment, environmental impact statement, or record of decision, whenever feasible, should address significant and adverse environmental effects of proposed Federal actions on minority communities and low-income communities.

Each Federal agency shall provide opportunities for community input in the NEPA process, including identifying potential effects and mitigation measures in consultation with affected communities and improving the accessibility of meetings, crucial documents, and notices.

The Environmental Protection Agency, when reviewing environmental effects of pro-

posed action of other Federal agencies under section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. section 7609, shall ensure that the involved agency has fully analyzed environmental effects on minority communities and low-income communities, including human health, social, and economic effects.

Each Federal agency shall ensure that the public, including minority communities and low-income communities, has adequate access to public information relating to human health or environmental planning, regulations, and enforcement when required under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552, the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552b, and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 U.S.C. section 11044.

\* \* \*

This memorandum is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch and is not intended to nor does it create, any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

**William J. Clinton**

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## **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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### **February 6**

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Houston, TX, and remained overnight.

### **February 7**

In the afternoon, the President toured the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center. In the evening, he traveled to Shreveport, LA, and remained overnight.

### **February 8**

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The White House announced the President sent a request to the Congress for additional funds to assist Midwestern States in their flood recovery efforts.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

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#### **Submitted February 9**

Guido Calabresi,  
of Connecticut, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, vice Thomas J. Meskill, retired.

Robert Harlan Henry,  
of Oklahoma, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, vice William J. Holloway, Jr., retired.

Frank M. Hull,  
of Georgia, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, vice Marvin Shoob, retired.

W. Louis Sands,  
of Georgia, to be U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia (new position).

Sheldon Whitehouse,  
of Rhode Island, to be U.S. Attorney for the District of Rhode Island for a term of 4 years, vice Lincoln C. Almond, resigned.

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### **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

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#### **Released February 4<sup>1</sup>**

Announcement of press briefings on the fiscal year 1995 budget to be held at the White House and Cabinet agencies

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<sup>1</sup> This release was not received in time for inclusion in the appropriate issue.

#### **Released February 5**

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on agreement in principle between Cyprus President Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash on confidence-building measures

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on the jobs conference for G-7 leaders in Detroit, MI, on March 14-15

#### **Released February 7**

Transcript of remarks by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers to the White House press corps pool in Houston, TX

Transcript of a press briefing by Assistant to the President for Economic Policy Bob Rubin, Council of Economic Advisers Chair Laura D'Andrea Tyson, and Director of the Office of Management and Budget Leon Panetta on the budget

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers announcing the availability of a complete electronic version of the fiscal year 1995 budget

#### **Released February 9**

Transcript of a press briefing by the Director of National Drug Control Policy Lee Brown on the national drug control strategy

Transcript of a press briefing by U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Roger Altman on Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy W. Bowman Cutter on the visit by Japanese Prime Minister Hosokawa

Announcement of U.S. recognition of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Announcement of National AIDS Policy Coordinator Kristine M. Gebbie's support of the national drug control policy

#### **Released February 10**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers

Announcement of appointment of members of the Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement Reform

***Released February 11***

Transcript of a press briefing by EPA Administrator Carol Browner and Attorney General Janet Reno on environmental justice

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on intensified military activities in Angola

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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***Approved February 12***

H.R. 3759 / Public Law 103-211  
Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1994, and for other purposes